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# Solar Coronal Jets: Observations, Theory, and Modeling

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Abstract Chromospheric and coronal jets represent important manifestations of ubiquitous solar transients, which may be the source of significant mass and energy input to the upper solar atmosphere and the solar wind. While the energy involved in a jet-like event is smaller than that of "nominal" solar flares and Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs), jets share many common properties with these major phenomena, in particular, the explosive magnetically driven dynamics. Studies of jets could, therefore, provide critical insight for understanding the larger, more complex drivers of the solar activity. On the other side of the size-spectrum, the study of jets could also supply important clues on the physics of transients close or at the limit of the current spatial resolution such as spicules. Furthermore, jet phenomena may hint to basic process for heating the corona and accelerating the solar wind; consequently their study gives us the opportunity to attack a broad range of solar-heliospheric problems.

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# Abbreviations

| CH(s)  | Coronal hole(s)             | SXT    | Soft X-ray Telescope            |
|--------|-----------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|
| PCH(s) | Polar coronal hole(s)       |        | (Tsuneta et al., 1991)          |
| ECH(s) | Equatorial coronal hole(s)  | SUMER  | Solar UV Measurements of        |
| AR(s)  | Active region(s)            |        | Emitted Radiation spectrometer  |
| QS     | Quiet Sun                   |        | (Wilhelm et al., 1995)          |
| BP(s)  | Bright point(s)             | CDS    | Coronal Diagnostic Spectrometer |
| CBP(s) | Coronal bright point(s)     |        | (Harrison et al., 1995)         |
| WL     | White light                 | UVCS   | UV Coronagraph Spectrometer     |
| UV     | Ultraviolet                 |        | (Kohl et al., 1995)             |
| EUV    | Extreme ultraviolet         | EIT    | EUV Imaging Telescope           |
| SXR(s) | Soft X-ray(s)               |        | (Delaboudinière et al., 1995)   |
| HXR(s) | Hard X-ray(s)               | LASCO  | Large Angle and Spectrometer    |
| FOV    | Field of view               |        | COronagraph                     |
| LOS    | Line of sight               |        | (Brueckner et al., 1995)        |
| MHD    | Magnetohydrodynamic         | MDI    | Michelson Doppler Imager        |
| SW     | Solar wind                  |        | (Scherrer et al., 1995)         |
| Yohkoh | Solar-A pre-launch          | XRT    | X-ray Telescope                 |
|        | (Ogawara et al., 1991)      |        | (Golub et al., 2007)            |
| SOHO   | Solar and Heliospheric      | SECCHI | Sun earth connection coronal    |
|        | Observatory                 |        | and heliospheric investigation  |
|        | (Domingo et al., 1995)      |        | (Howard et al., 2008)           |
| TRACE  | Transition Region And       | EUVI   | Extreme UV Imager               |
|        | Coronal Explorer            |        | Wuelser et al. (2004)           |
|        | (Handy et al., 1999)        | AIA    | Atmospheric Imaging             |
| RHESSI | Reuven Ramaty High          |        | Assembly                        |
|        | Energy Solar Spectroscopic  |        | (Lemen et al., 2012)            |
|        | Imager (Lin et al., 2002)   | EIS    | EUV Imaging Spectrometer        |
| STEREO | Solar TErrestrial RElations |        | (Culhane et al., 2007a)         |
|        | Observatory                 | HMI    | Helioseismic and Magnetic       |
|        | (Kaiser et al., 2008)       |        | Imager (Scherrer et al., 2012)  |
| Hinode | Solar-B pre-launch          | IRIS   | Interface Region Imaging        |
|        | (Kosugi et al., 2007)       |        | Spectrometer                    |
| SDO    | Solar Dynamics              |        | (de Pontieu et al., 2014b)      |
| -      | Observatory                 | ISSI   | International Space Science     |
|        | (Pesnell et al., 2012)      |        | Institute, Bern, Switzerland    |
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## 1 Introduction: Brief Historical Aspect of Coronal Jets

The wide variety of transient phenomena in the solar corona first became apparent in the 1970s with the discovery of coronal transients in ground-based, green-line observations (Demastus et al., 1973); discovery of macro-spicules in Skylab EUV observations (Bohlin et al., 1975; Withbroe et al., 1976); and the discovery of explosive events (Brueckner, 1980). These new discoveries led to speculation on the role of these transients, particularly coronal jets, play in the coronal heating and solar wind acceleration (Brueckner and Bartoe, 1978, 1983). This also triggered the interest of theoreticians and modelers in the newly discovered phenomena of jets (Karpen et al., 1982).

Coronal jets were seen by the NRL/UV telescope onboard the space shuttle in the 1980s and later by the Japanese spacecraft *Yohkoh* in the early 1990s. *Yohkoh*/SXT observations unveiled the largest, most energetic category of coronal jets (Shibata et al., 1992; Strong et al., 1992; Shimojo et al., 1996, 1998, 2001; Shimojo and Shibata, 2000). Since then jet-like phenomena has occupied a center stage in coronal observational, theoretical, and state-of-the-art numerical analyses.

Coronal jets are a near-ubiquitous solar phenomena regardless of the solar cycle phase. They are particularly prominent in coronal holes (e.g., open magnetic field regions) because of the darker background. The X-ray and EUV observations reveal their collimated, beam-like structure, which are typically rooted in coronal bright points. Their signature can be traced out to several Mm in X-ray/EUV observations, up to several solar radii in white light images (e.g., Wang et al., 1998), and also at > 1 AU in in-situ measurements of the solar wind (e.g., Wang et al., 2006; Nitta et al., 2006, 2008; Neugebauer, 2012). The unceasing improvements in spatial and temporal resolution of data recorded over the last three decades by different space missions (e.g., Yohkoh, SOHO, STEREO, Hinode, SDO, IRIS) provide unprecedented details on the initiation and evolution of coronal jets. The recent imaging and spectroscopic observations unveiled jet characteristics that could not be observed with lower spatio-temporal resolution (e.g., morphology, type, twisting, size, velocities, temperature, and their connection to other coronal structures).

Despite the major advances made on both observational and theoretical fronts, the underlying physical mechanisms, which trigger these events, drive them, and explain their observational properties are not completely understood. Recent space missions (e.g., STEREO, Hinode, and SDO) represent important milestones in the exploration and observation of the fine coronal structures, particularly coronal jets. The observations show that jets can be topologically complex and may contribute to the heating of the solar corona and the acceleration of the solar wind.

The present review is the result of work performed by the ISSI International Team on "Solar Coronal Jets". We, the authors, met at ISSI twice (March 2013 and March 2014) and had intense discussions on the nature of coronal jets, their triggers, evolution, and contribution to the heating and acceleration of the coronal and solar wind plasma, from both observational and theoretical point of views. We do not claim that this review is in any way exhaustive but it presents a thorough overview on the wealth of observations available from different space missions as well as state-of-the-art models of these coronal structures. The work we accomplished addressed many questions regarding coronal jets, but also left many others unanswered and raised several other outstanding issues for these

prominent structures. Future missions with better observational capabilities along with the maturing of existing numerical codes will help address these questions and may lead to a yet better understanding of coronal jets and their role as a component of the magnetic activity of the Sun.

In the present review, we mainly deal with observations from the *SOHO* era to the present. *Yohkoh*/SXT observations, which led to important insights and laid the seeds of major progress made during the later decades (see, e.g., Shibata et al., 1992).

## 2 Early Imaging and Coronagraphic Observations of Jets

This section contains a description of jet observations carried out by EUV and SXR imagers and WL coronagraphs on-board various space-borne observatories since the early 90's. The seamless improvements in terms of important instrumental parameters (e.g., spatial and temporal resolution, temperature coverage, etc.) have been and continue to be key factors in advancing our undestanding of coronal jets. These instruments include Yohkoh/SXT; SOHO/EIT and LASCO; TRACE; RHESSI; Hinode/XRT; SECCHI/EUVI and COR1 and COR2 coronagraphs of STEREO; SDO/AIA and HMI. Key parameters of the imagers and coronagraphs are listed in Tables 1 and 2, respectively.

 ${\bf Table~1}~{\bf Summary~of~Imaging~Instrument~Capabilities~for~Jet~Observations.}$ 

| Instrument     | Resolution $[''/pix]$ | FOV [arcsec]              | Cadence [s] | Temperature coverage $[\log T]$ |
|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|
| Yohkoh/SXT     | 2.5/5                 | max full disk             | min 20      | 6-7.5                           |
| SOHO/EIT       | 2.5                   |                           |             | 4.9 - 6.4                       |
| TRACE          | 0.6                   |                           |             |                                 |
| RHESSI         |                       |                           |             |                                 |
| Hinode/XRT     | 1.028                 | max full disk             | min 10      | 6.1 - 7.3                       |
| Hinode/SOT/BFI | 0.0533                | $\max 218'' \times 109''$ | $\max 1.6$  |                                 |
| STEREO/EUVI    | 1.6                   | full disk                 | 150         | 4.9 - 6.4                       |
| SDO/AIA        | 0.6                   | full disk                 | 12          | 3.7 - 7.3                       |
| PROBA2         |                       | full disk                 |             |                                 |

**Table 2** Main Characteristics of Coronagraphs on-board *SOHO* (C1, C2, & C3) and *STEREO* (COR1 & COR2).

| Instrument | Pixel size (arcsec) | $_{(\mathrm{R}_{\odot})}^{\mathrm{FOV}}$ | Bandpass  | Cadence (min) |
|------------|---------------------|--|---|---------------|
| C1         | 5.6                 | 1.1-3                                    | broad-band channel<br>and emission lines in visible | 10            |
| C2         | 11.4                | 1.5-6                                    | broad-band channel in visible                       | 20            |
| C3         | 56                  | 3.7 - 30                                 | broad-band channel in visible                       | 30            |
| COR1       | 3.75                | 1.4-4                                    | broad-band channel in visible                       | 5             |
| COR2       | 14.7                | 2.5 - 15                                 | broad-band channel in visible                       | 15            |

#### 2.1 EIT and LASCO Observations

The first combined analysis of EUV and WL coronal jets by SOHO instrumentation was carried out by Wang et al. (1998). A set of 27 polar coronal hole jets were traced from the EIT FOV through to the LASCO/C2 FOV (Fig. 1) during the solar minimum period. The sources of these jets on the solar disk were near flaring bright points in the polar coronal holes. On average there were 3-4 such jets per day. The WL counterparts of these jets had angular extent in the range of 2-4°. The leading edges of these jets had speeds in the range 400-1100 kms<sup>-1</sup>; significantly smaller centroid (i.e., bulk) speeds of  $\approx 250 \text{ kms}^{-1}$  were recorded. The latter suggests jet deceleration to the ambient solar wind possibly due to the action of a dragrelated force between 1-2  $R_{\odot}$ . The solar wind drag hypothesis is also supported by kinematics fitting of 5 other coronal jets observed by EIT and LASCO (Karovska et al., 1999; Wood et al., 1999).

Wang and Sheeley (2002) analyzed LASCO observations of WL jets during solar maximum conditions. Several important differences with respect to coronal jets observed during solar minimum conditions were found. Solar maximum coronal jets originated from a wider range of latitudes compared to their solar minimum counterparts. The former did not only originate from polar regions but also from active regions and regions close to the boundaries of equatorial coronal holes. In addition, during solar maximum coronal jets were wider (3-7°) and brighter than solar minimum jets, which suggests that they could be more massive. Finally, the solar maximum jet average bulk speed in the LASCO/C2 FOV was  $\approx 600 \text{ kms}^{-1}$ .

Bout et al. (2002) determined the radial profiles of the electron density in 4 coronal jets observed during solar maximum conditions by LASCO/C2. The background-subtracted WL radiances of the observed jets were fitted with tubelike models of the jets' envelopes. The resulting density profiles of the observed jets in the range 3-6  $R_{\odot}$  gave rise to densities of  $\sim (2-10)\times 10^5$  and  $\sim (0.3-1.5)\times 10^5$  cm<sup>-3</sup> at 3 and 6  $R_{\odot}$ , respectively. These density values are significantly higher (up to factor 50) than the densities of the ambient corona at the same heights.

### 2.2 TRACE Observations

The first detailed study of coronal jets observed by TRACE was reported by Alexander and Fletcher (1999). The high temporal and spatial resolution as well as the multi-temperature coverage of TRACE observations showed the co-existence of both cool and hot emitting plasmas in coronal jets. The cool material was detected either in absorption in coronal channels (e.g., 171 Å) or in emission in the Lyman  $\alpha$  channel. The cool and hot emissions in the observed jets were not strictly cospatial (see also Jiang et al., 2007), which suggests that jets energize several layers of the solar atmosphere. Jets with both one-sided (single spire) anemone-type and two-sided (two spires) morphology (see for example Fig. 2) were observed. Finally, evidence of rotation and bifurcation was seen in one of the observed jets.

In a series of studies, *TRACE* observations of chromospheric surge-like and coronal jets were combined with co-temporal observations of the photospheric magnetic field (e.g., Chae, 2003; Liu and Kurokawa, 2004; Jiang et al., 2007; Chen et al., 2008, 2009). Such studies supplied important constraints on the magnetic environment and the formation mechanism(s) of the observed jets. EUV and UV

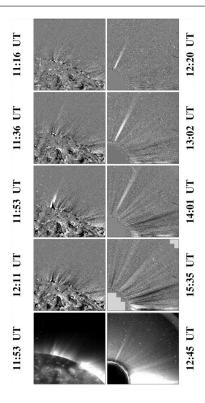


Fig. 1 EIT-LASCO observations of a polar coronal hole jet. Left (right) panels show EIT (LASCO/C2) images of the jet. The bottom row contains plain images whereas the remaining rows show difference images to enhance the jet visibility. From Wang et al. (1998).

jets were observed above sites of flux cancellation or emergence in the photosphere (see, e.g., Chen et al., 2008). Both cool ( $\approx 10^4-10^5$  K) and hot ( $\approx 10^6$  K) plasma were involved in the observed jets which supposedly resulted from the photospheric cancellation/flux-emergence episodes. The photospheric cancellation events were associated with cool transition region jets carrying an estimated mass of  $\approx 1.7-4.6\times 10^{13}$  g. Given a birth-rate of  $\approx 1$  jet per hour the mass of a typical prominence could have been accumulated in a matter of few days (Chae, 2003).

EUV jets observed by TRACE in ARs often have SXR counterparts as observed by either SXT or XRT although there is not always a one-to-one correspondence (e.g., Alexander and Fletcher, 1999; Liu and Kurokawa, 2004; Jiang et al., 2007; Kim et al., 2007; Nishizuka et al., 2008; Gontikakis et al., 2009). A good spatial correspondence between TRACE EUV coronal jets and their SXR counterparts is frequently observed (e.g., right panels of Figs. 2, 3). As a matter of fact a joint TRACE-XRT study of coronal jets showed they have comparable speeds of  $90-310~{\rm km~s^{-1}}$ , lifetimes of  $100-2000~{\rm s}$  and sizes of  $1.1-5.0\times10^5~{\rm km}$  (see Kim et al., 2007).

TRACE jets were also observed over sites of microflares observed by RHESSI in ARs (e.g., Liu et al., 2004; Christe et al., 2008). Liu et al. (2004) found that almost half of the studied RHESSI microflares were associated with a TRACE jet. These findings support the hypothesis of coronal jet formation by magnetic reconnection. Note that the HXR sources had a loop-like appearance and were observed at the feet of the EUV jets.

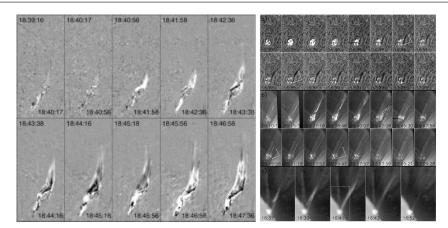


Fig. 2 (Left) running-difference snapshots during evolution of a two-sided coronal jet observed in the 171 Å channel of TRACE. From Alexander and Fletcher (1999). (Right) evolution of coronal jet in H  $\alpha$  (two upper rows); in TRACE 171 Å (two middle panels) and in SXT (lower panels; smaller FOV). From Jiang et al. (2007).

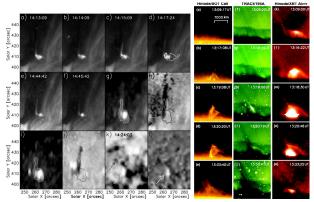


Fig. 3 Left panel: evolution of a coronal jet observed in TRACE 171 Å channel (a-f), SUMER (g-j) and MDI (k and l; the two arrows in this panel show the emerging magnetic flux). From Gontikakis et al. (2009). Right panel:evolution of a coronal jet observed by Hinode SOT in Ca II (left column), TRACE 195 Å (middle column) and Hinode XRT (right column). From Nishizuka et al. (2008).

Finally, jets of chromospheric material which were observed by TRACE as absorbing intrusions at the feet of coronal structures in plage regions (i.e., the so-called moss) could be responsible for the variability seen in moss (e.g., Berger et al., 1999; de Pontieu et al., 1999).

## $2.3\ STEREO$ Observations

The first STEREO observations of jets were described by Patsourakos et al. (2008). This study provided clear evidence of helical structure in a polar coronal jet observed by EUVI onboard STA and STB (see Fig. 4). The helical structure was observed edge-on and face-on from the two respective viewpoints during the untwisting of the rising jet structure. This supplied solid evidence for a "true" helical structure something that was not possible to fully address with previous single-viewpoint observations. In addition, synthetic images from a 3D MHD jet model

(Pariat et al., 2009) based on magnetic twist were found in qualitative agreement with the reported SECCHI observations (see right panels of Fig. 4).

The first large statistical survey of coronal jets (79 events) observed by SEC-CHI/EUVI and COR1 in both polar and equatorial coronal holes was carried out by Nisticò et al. (2009). They found that about 40% (31/79) of the observed jets by EUVI had a helical structure. Therefore, a helical structure can be considered a common element of coronal jets. Moreover, all reported jets of this study were associated with a compact magnetic bipole with the resulting jets observed either on top ("Eiffel tower" jet) or at the side of these bipoles (" $\lambda$ " jet). Examples are given in Fig. 5. Note that SECCHI observations of jets suggest multipolar magnetic field settings (Filippov et al., 2013).

A few (5/79) of the observed jets in the Nisticò et al. (2009) sample had the appearance of a "micro-CME", i.e., contained a small loop that eventually erupted while straightening giving rise to a jet-like appearance (see also Moore et al., 2010, who termed them blow-out jets). Such blow-out jets often contain filament-like material in the erupting core field as was revealed by EUVI observations in the 304 Å channel. The association between blow-out jets and small CME-like eruptions was extended in a series of studies which combined SECCHI with SDO, Hinode or PROBA2 observations, with typically the one instrument offering a disk-view and the other a limb-view of the same event. Shen et al. (2012) found for a blow-out jet observed on disk by AIA that it exhibited a bubble-like morphology when viewed off-limb by SECCHI, with the later morphology frequently observed in CMEs. Lee et al. (2013) analyzed EUVI observations showing an EUV dimming left behind by a jet observed off-disk with *Hinode*. The association between twisted minifilament eruptions and blow-out jets was also shown in Hong et al. (2011, 2013). All these findings suggest that the blow-out jets have significant similarities with the larger-scale CMEs and hint at a scale-invariant eruptive solar phenomenon.

The width of EUV jets observed by EUVI ranges from down the instrument's spatial resolution (i.e.,  $1.6'' \simeq 1150$  km) to few times  $10^3 - 10^4$  km. Note though that by jet width we define here the transverse spatial scale of the analyzed jet's envelope and this does not incorporate any of the omni-present fine structure seen in jet observations.

Paraschiv et al. (2010) carried out the largest to-date statistical study of WL jets observed by STEREO. A total of 10,912 jets observed by COR1 for a two-year-long period was analyzed. In addition, high correlations between EUV and WL jets (73-78%) were found.

SECCHI observations allowed for detailed studies of the kinematics and speeds of coronal jets. Various methods were used for this task. This includes triangulation (e.g., Patsourakos et al., 2008; Nisticò et al., 2010; Feng et al., 2012; Zhang and Ji, 2014a), image stack-plots (e.g., Pucci et al., 2013) and jet transit-times through the FOV of a given instrument (e.g., Nisticò et al., 2009, 2010; Paraschiv et al., 2010). The latter method essentially supplies an average jet speed from the time it is visible within a given instrument's FOV. The resulting jet speeds are in the range of  $\approx 250-400\,\mathrm{km~s^{-1}}$  for EUV jets observed by EUVI and of  $\approx 100-400\,\mathrm{km~s^{-1}}$  for WL jets observed by COR1. From the statistical studies of Nisticò et al. (2009) and Paraschiv et al. (2010) the average speeds of EUVI and COR1 jets are both around  $\approx 300-400\,\mathrm{km~s^{-1}}$ . Note that most of the speeds quoted above correspond to the propagation phase of jets, i.e., after their initiation. Before reaching the typical cruising speeds of few hundred km s<sup>-1</sup> the magnetic structure that eventually

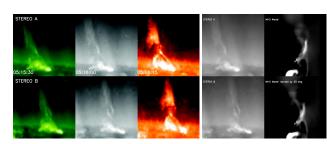


Fig. **4** (Left) Multiwavelength SECCHI/EUVI observations of a helical coronal hole jet in a polar coronal hole. First, second and third column correspond to the 195, 171 and 304 Å channels of EUVI respectively. (Right) Å images of the jet (left) compared with synthetic images from an MHD model (right). From Patsourakos et al. (2008).

gives rise to a jet ascending at a much smaller speed of typically few  $10~\rm km~s^{-1}$  (e.g., Patsourakos et al., 2008). This kinematic behavior (slow rise followed by impulsive acceleration) is a characteristic of an instability taking place in a quasistatically driven MHD system. Polar and equatorial coronal hole EUV jets have similar speeds as shown in Nisticò et al. (2010).

Ratios of EUVI channel intensities can be used to estimate jet temperatures, and Nisticò et al. (2011) used the 171/195 and 195/284 ratios to derive temperatures of 0.8-1.3 MK, while Pucci et al. (2013) used the 284/195 ratio (and also SXR ratios) to derive temperatures of 1.6-2.0 MK.

Feng et al. (2012) presented a detailed study of the energetics of a well-observed and large polar coronal hole jet. To infer the jet's kinematics they interfaced its kinematics and brightness evolution as observed by EUVI, COR1 and COR2 with a kinematic particle model based on the ballistic assumption. They deduced a jet kinetic energy in the range  $2.1 \times 10^{28} - 2.4 \times 10^{29}$  erg, and a jet mass in the range  $3.2 \times 10^{14} - 1.8 \times 10^{15}$  g. This energy estimate lies in the microflare range. The initial jet density was estimated in the range  $8 \times 10^9 - 5 \times 10^{10} \text{cm}^{-3}$ . Pucci et al. (2013) analyzed the energetics of two jets observed by SECCHI and XRT, one blow-out and one standard. They found that blow-out jet had an energy budget (mechanical+radiative+enthalpy) of  $\approx 2.0 \times 10^{27}$  erg about an order of magnitude larger than that of the standard jet.

In a recent article, Nisticò et al. (2015) studied the deflections of 79 polar coronal hole jets, at  $\approx\!1$  and 2  $R_\odot$  as observed by EUVI and COR1 respectively, and found that their propagation was not radial and larger in the north than in the south. These properties were used to constrain models of the large-scale configuration of the coronal magnetic field.

#### 2.4 RHESSI Observations

There exist several *RHESSI* observations of coronal jets taking place during microflares or even standard flares (e.g., Liu et al., 2004; Christe et al., 2008; Chifor et al., 2008b; Chen et al., 2009, 2013). The HXR emissions are limited to the base of the jets and presumably correspond to small loops which were energized by the microflares (e.g., Fig. 6), which is suggestive of the important role of magnetic reconnection in generating both phenomena.

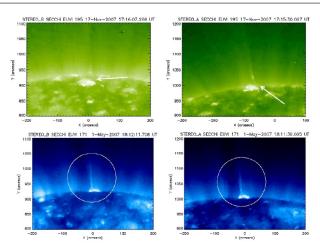


Fig. 5 EUVI STA and STB observations of an "Eifel Tower" (top) and of " $\lambda$ " jet (bottom). Both reported jets took place within a polar coronal hole. From Nisticò et al. (2009).

Two studies during coronal jets supplied evidence of RHESSI HXR emissions not only from the bases of the observed jets but also from their spires (Bain and Fletcher, 2009; Glesener et al., 2012, see Fig. 7). Bain and Fletcher (2009) showed that the HXR emission corresponds to energies of 20-30 keV and the fitting of the RHESSI spectrum provides evidence for a jet temperature of  $\approx 28$  MK and the non-thermal nature of the emission, which was also corroborated by multifrequency imaging observations in the microwaves by the Nobeyama radioheliograph. Off-limb observations by Glesener et al. (2012) of a footpoint-occulted coronal jet showed faint HXR coronal sources along the jet spires reaching heights of  $\approx 50$  Mm above the limb. The spectral analysis of the jet hard X-ray source showed that collisional losses either in the corona or at the occulted chromospheric footpoints by accelerated electrons can supply the thermal and mechanical energy of the jet. Note that theoretical calculations by Saint-Hilaire et al. (2009) placed limits on the number of non-thermal electrons accelerated along open magnetic field (e.g.,  $\approx 3 \times 10^{36}$  for RHESSI) to allow for their detection in HXRs or SXRs.

Frequently during coronal jets the temporal profile of the associated HXRs matches the associated type III radio burst. This suggests that the magnetic configuration associated with jets (i.e., transient magnetic field opening) released and accelerated electrons which escaped into the IP space. The close temporal associations between coronal jets, *RHESSI* HXRs and type III radio bursts has been reported in a number of studies (e.g., Berkebile-Stoiser et al., 2009; Chifor et al., 2008b; Krucker et al., 2008; Bain and Fletcher, 2009; Glesener et al., 2012; Chen et al., 2013).

### 3 Hinode/XRT and SDO/AIA Imaging: Morphology of Coronal Jets

Most of the works of this Section include analyses of SDO/AIA data. Following §3.1, we separate the discussion into subsections covering general morphological observations of jets (§3.2), which roughly covers studies of coronal jets based mostly

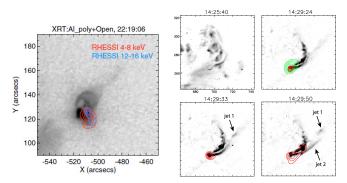


Fig. 6 (Left) RHESSI observations (colored contours) overlayed on co-temporal XRT observations (reverse color-table) of a coronal jet. From Chifor et al. (2008b). (Right) RHESSI observations (colored contours) overlayed on co-temporal TRACE observations (reverse color-table) of a coronal jet. From Christe et al. (2008).

on AIA imaging data; and then on studies that include substantial discussions of observations of twisting in jets (§3.3); and then on studies of jets that include the use of AIA data and that also either include substantial use of other types of data (e.g., radio or hard X-rays), or that substantially connect coronal jets with other solar phenomena (e.g., coronal bright points, explosive events, or macro-spicules). These divisions however are, in many cases, largely artificial, and there can be substantial overlap in the categories into which a particular study should fall. For example, some of the jets studied outside of the subsection on twisting jets also displayed helical motions. Therefore the divisions are best considered as a method to give a rough order to the substantial body of literature on coronal jets.

#### 3.1 Standard and blow-out Jets

Moore et al. (2010) introduced the concept of "blow-out jets," along with the terminology "blow-out" and "standard" jets. These terms were originally based on morphological descriptions of coronal jets when viewed in soft X-ray movies from Hinode/XRT. They observed that the spires of some X-ray jets remained thin and narrow during their entire lifetime, and their bases remained relatively dim, except for the commonly observed compact jet-base brightening on one the side of the jet's base. They also observed that other X-ray jets evolve such that the spire begins narrow, as in the narrow-jet case, but then broadens out with time until it is of size comparable to the width of the jet's base. For this second class of jets, the jet-base brightening again starts as a compact feature off to one side of the jet's spire, but eventually the entire base brightens to become about as bright as the compact jet-base brightening. Moore et al. (2010) looked at two jets of each type in STEREO/EUVI 304 Å images. These observations suggested that most of the first type of jet, i.e. those with spires that remained narrow, had no jet counterpart in the 304 Å images, while most of the second type (jets with the broad spire) had accompanying 304 Å jets.

Based on these observations, Moore et al. (2010) suggested that the narrow-spire jets were produced as in the original jet-production model due to Shibata (Shibata et al., 1992; Shibata, 2001, see §9); thus they dubbed these types of jets

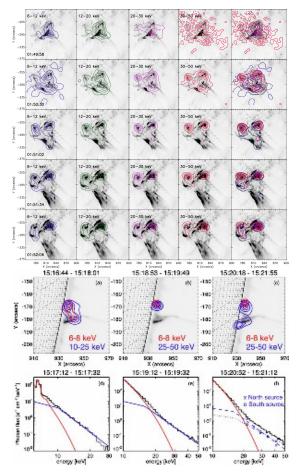


Fig. 7 (Top) RHESSI observations (colored contours) overlayed on co-temporal TRACE observations (reverse color-table) of a coronal jet. From Bain and Fletcher (2009). (Bottom) RHESSI observations (colored contours) overlayed on co-temporal TRACE observations (reverse color-table) of a coronal jet. The red (blue) contours correspond to thermal (non-thermal) sources as determined from the corresponding spectral fittings displayed at the bottom of this panel. From Glesener et al. (2012).

"standard jets," since the jets seemed to obey that original "standard" picture (Fig. 8). In contrast, they suggested that the broad-spire jets were generated by a variation of the standard picture. In this case, the emerging (or emerged) flux would have much more free magnetic energy than in the case where a standard jet was formed, and that free-energy-containing bipole would be ready to explode (i.e. undergo a solar eruption) if some situation would trigger the sudden liberation of that free energy. They suggested that these jets started out the same as standard jets, with an emerging bipole reconnecting with ambient open field. That reconnection resulted in a narrow spire, as in the standard-jet case. But during this reconnection process, the emerging bipole is triggered unstable and erupts outward. This eruption blows out the bipole field and the surrounding field, carrying

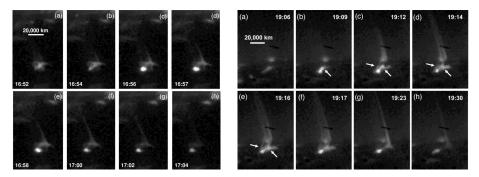


Fig. 8 Examples of standard (Left) and blow-out (Right) jets observed by Hinode/XRT. Times are UT times on Sep. 22, 2008, and Sep. 20, 2008, respectively. The defining characteristics of standard jets are: narrow spire, compact jet-base brightening (c), and the absence of cool (chromospheric-temperature) emission in STEREO/EUVI 304 Å images. blow-out jets are, on the other hand, characterized by initially narrow spire (c) that later broadens to span nearly the width of the base region (e,f); initial compact brightening (b) that spread to the whole jet-base (c-e); and a strong cool (chromospheric-temperature) component visible in STEREO/EUVI 304 Å images. Adopted from Moore et al. (2010, see also Moore et al. 2013).

outward the cool (chromospheric-temperature) material entrained in those fields. Thus they named these types of jets "blow-out jets." This eruption of the bipole results in much-more widespread reconnections than in the standard-jet case, where the emerging bipole remains inert throughout the jetting process. This scenario for blow-out jets could explain why the jet spire can grow from narrow to broad, and also why cool material, visible in 304 Å EUV images, would often accompany the blow-out jets (Fig. 8). An alternative possibility allowed for by Moore et al. (2010) is that the bipole starts erupting before the reconnection with the ambient field begins; in this view, the eruption of the bipole would drive the reconnection with the ambient field. In both the standard and the blow-out cases, the suggestion was that the reconnection between the emerging or emerged bipole field and the ambient coronal field created the compact jet-base brightening. Fig. 9 shows the basic picture for standard and blow-out jets.

Moore et al. (2013) expanded upon the earlier work on standard and blow-out jets (Moore et al., 2010) by examining 54 X-ray jets found in *Hinode/XRT* data, and they also observed them in AIA 304 Å images. They identified 32 of the jets as blow-out, 19 as standard, and 3 were ambiguous. When these newer results (Moore et al., 2013) are combined with the previous work (Moore et al., 2010), the total number of X-ray jets examined is 109, and among these, 53 are standard, 50 are blow-out, and 6 are ambiguous. This new work (Moore et al., 2013) found that almost all blow-out jets (29 out of 32)<sup>1</sup> had corresponding jets observable in 304 Å images. They also found that almost none of the standard jets had such a cool jet visible in 304 Å; only 3 of the 19 standard jets had such a corresponding cool-component jet.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A typo in paragraph 2 of §5 of Moore et al. (2013) says "all 29 blow-out X-ray jets displayed a cool component." This instead should read: "29 out of 32 blow-out X-ray jets displayed a cool component." This typo does not affect the general discussion and conclusions of that paper.

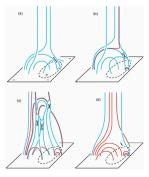


Fig. 9 Proposed process for blow-out jets, according to Moore et al. (2010, 2013). (a) Initial set up is as in the case of standard jets: ambient coronal magnetic field (open) and emerging or emerged bipolar field (closed). (b) Magnetic reconnection (X) occurs at the location of the current sheet (short black-line arch) shown in (a). A narrow jet spire resembling standard jets forms along the new open field lines. (c) Destabilization of the bipolar field leading to full eruption and various reconnections (crosses). Cool material originally entrained inside of the bipole is carried outward with the eruption. (d) Late stages of the bipole's eruption: new reconnection-produced loops form and brightening the base region of the jet. A set of newly-reconnected open field lines (red open curves) extend from the base, and hot material flows out along these lines forming a broad jet spire. Adopted from Moore et al. (2010).

#### 3.2 General Morphological Observations of Jets

Liu et al. (2011a) observed a chromospheric jet that erupted in conjunction with a weak (GOES A4.9) flare. The jet was only seen in absorption in 284 Å and in mixed absorption and emission in 193 Å, but it also appeared as weak emission in X-rays. As it was observed at the limb, direct magnetic information was not available. The authors argue, however, that observations of a growing set of loops near the start of the event is consistent with emerging flux in an open-field region leading to magnetic reconnection and forming the jet in a fan-spine magnetic-field topology.

Direct magnetic observations of the magnetic field of a jet were also carried out by Liu et al. (2011b), who observed an event near disk center and at several AIA wavelengths; they found the jet to evolve from standard type to blow-out type. With HMI magnetograms they observed flux emergence occurring before, and perhaps during, the time of the jet formation, although the jet only occurred as a leg of that emerging flux canceled with nearby field.

A blow-out jet was also observed by Hong et al. (2011), who found it to have resulted from a mini-filament eruption. They show that their jet had characteristics of large-scale CME-producing eruptions, including a small flare-like brightening, a small coronal dimming region, and a micro-CME. They found that the jet occurred around the time of convergences and cancelations of opposite-polarity magnetic flux in the photosphere.

Shen et al. (2012) examined an on-disk blow-out jet. As in the case of Hong et al. (2011), this jet also resulted in a miniature CME. They identified both hot and cool components to the jet, pointing out that the cool component originated from a filament that erupted in a magnetic arch that blew out, and they also saw the filament in  $H\alpha$  images from Big Bear (see Fig. 10). From HMI magnetograms, they identified flux changes that they interpreted as a series of emergences and cancelations that resulted in the onset of the jet. In particular they found indications of "impulsive cancelation between the opposite polarities during the ejection of the blow-out jet." This eruption also displayed unwinding motions during the eruption.

Chandrashekhar et al. (2014b) looked at a jet at the boundary of a coronal hole with SDO/AIA and HMI, and with STEREO. They found motions prior to

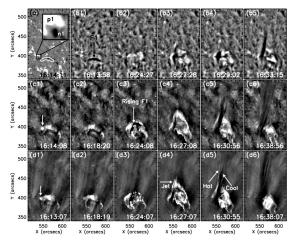


Fig. 10 On-disc observations of a blow-out jet, in (b1-b5) H $\alpha$  from Big Bear Solar Observatory, (c1-c6) AIA 304 Å, and (d1-d6) AIA 193 Å. Panel (a) shows an HMI magnetogram, with a close up showing positive (p1) and negative polarities, and the contour of the of profile of the filament labeled F1 in panel (b1). Vertical arrows show a bright patch prior to ejection of the filament, and the two arrows in (d5) show the hot and cool components of the jet. From Shen et al. (2012).

jet eruption along the loops at the jet's base. They also found evidence that flows along the jet's spire consist of multiple quasi-periodic small-scale plasma-ejection events, consistent with results they found in a separate study (Chandrashekhar et al., 2014a) that used *Hinode/XRT* and EIS data. Chandrashekhar et al. (2014b) further used a DEM analysis based on images at several AIA EUV wavelengths to obtain plasma properties, finding a jet temperature of  $\log T = 5.89 \pm 0.08$  K and densities of  $\log N = 8.75 \pm 0.05 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ . They also used magneto-seismological inversion techniques to obtain a magnetic field strength of  $B=1.21\pm0.2$  G along the jet spire. In STEREO/EUVI images, which saw the jet as a limb object, the jet was not apparent in 195 Å images, but was clearly visible in 304 Å images, and this may reflect the relatively cool temperature obtained from the AIA DEM analysis. Nonetheless, the jet was visible in hotter AIA channels, and the authors speculate that this could be because the relatively-cool jet still stood out against the coronal hole and surrounding disk features, which were in the jet's background from the AIA perspective where the jet appeared as an on-disk event. Magnetograms from HMI did not show evidence for emerging flux near the jet's base; such emergence is expected from the traditional models (Shibata et al., 1992; Yokoyama and Shibata, 1995), and the authors suggested that any such emerging flux was relatively weak. An interesting observational implication of this work is that apparently there exists some 304 Å jets that have little or no emission in hotter EUV channels. Despite not having a "hot" EUV component, without concurrent X-ray observations however it is not known whether there might be a corresponding X-ray component to these cool (304 Å) jets. (See §3.4 for more examples of cool jets).

Continuing with the theme of multiple small-scale ejecta in jets, Zhang and Ji (2014b) studied a recurrent series of homologous jets that occurred on the edge of an AR, using all seven AIA EUV filters, and also ground-based H $\alpha$  observations from Big Bear Solar Observatory. Three jets occurred, lasting 20–30 min each,

and separated at intervals of 40–45 min. Their speeds were 120–450 km s $^{-1}$ , and followed parabolic trajectories; each jet fell back to the solar surface, but this fall was best visible in the cooler AIA channels. They report "blobs" of material during the rising phases of the jets. These blobs had lifetimes of 24–60 s, had diameters  $\sim\!\!3000$  km, and, from DEM analyses, temperatures of 0.5–4 MK, with a median value of  $\sim\!\!2.3$  MK. They suggest that the blobs are plasmoids ejected during reconnection resulting from tearing-mode instability in current sheets occurring with the jets.

Adams et al. (2014) used AIA and HMI to observe a blow-out jet in an on-disk coronal hole. They observed the event across several EUV wavelengths, including 304 Å, 171 Å, and 193 Å. They suggested that the jet resulted from eruption of a mini-filament. This mini-filament initially moved slowly ( $\sim$ 15 km s<sup>-1</sup>) prior to forming the jet, and them more rapidly ( $\sim 80 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ) as the mini-filament-material ejected along open field lines as the jet; they also identified a faint, faster component ( $\sim$ 200 km s<sup>-1</sup>) in 193 Å images. The slow rise followed by a fast rise pattern is similar to that frequently observed in larger-scale filament eruptions (Roy and Tang, 1975; Sterling and Moore, 2005). In searching for the origin of the jet, they examined magnetic field changes at the jet's base. Similar to Chandrashekhar et al. (2014b) discussed above, they did not find evidence for flux emergence, even after an exhaustive search. Instead, they found flux cancelation had occurred in the region instead, and they suggested that the flux cancelation led to the jet. They further suggested that the jet resulted from eruption of the mini-filament when its force balance was upset by the cancelation. In this case, contrary to the fluxemergence models (Shibata et al., 1992; Yokoyama and Shibata, 1995), and also contrary to the original formulation of the blow-out-jet idea (Moore et al., 2010, 2013), they found that the compact brightening at the edge of the base of the jet was due to the "flare" loops that formed as a result of reconnection among the legs of magnetic field of the erupting mini-filament ("internal reconnection"), and that reconnection between the outer magnetic shell of the erupting mini-filament and the surrounding ambient open coronal magnetic field ("external reconnection") resulted in large-scale base loops that were not as bright as the compact brightening. This is opposite to the emerging-flux models, whereby it is suggested that the external reconnection results in the compact brightening at the edge of the jet's base. Thus Adams et al. (2014) suggested that they observed a new variety of coronal jet.

Very recently Sterling et al. (2015) observed 20 near-limb polar-coronal-hole X-ray jets, using both Hinode/XRT and SDO/AIA images. They reported that all 20 jets originated with a mini-filament eruption, and with the compact-base brightening being flaring loops occurring in the wake of the eruption. Based on this, they suggested that the "new variety" of coronal jet observed by Adams et al. (2014), rather than being exceptional, is in fact the predominant variety of coronal jet (at least in polar coronal holes). They further suggested that standard jets and blow-out jets are fundamentally the same phenomenon, with either "standard" or "blow-out" morphology ensuing depending upon particulars of the mini-filament eruption. As of the time of this writing, it is too early to tell how well the Sterling et al. (2015) observations and inferences describe coronal jets in general.

Young and Muglach (2014b) observed a blow-out jet in the south PCH using SDO/AIA and HMI, and Hinode/EIS and XRT. They found that the jet formed from hot and cold loops expanding out from a bright point. The front of their jet

had line-of-sight velocities of  $100-250~\rm km~s^{-1}$ , with indications of an acceleration mechanism operating along the body of the jet. The jet lifetime was  $\sim 30~\rm min$ . The base brightening lasted for  $\gtrsim 10~\rm hrs$ , although it disappeared  $\sim 2~\rm hrs$  following the jet. Several bright "kernels" appeared within the bright point. From HMI, there were converging magnetic flows at the bright point's location, with cancelation occurring "over a period of four hours on either side of the jet." The jet itself occurred during a cancelation episode at the bright point.

In Young and Muglach (2014a), the same team observed a second blow-out jet, using AIA and HMI and EIS. They again found line-of-sight velocities up to  $250~\rm km~s^{-1}$ , and also evidence for acceleration of the jet with distance from its base bright point. They also report twisting motions comparable to those found in other work (e.g. Shen et al., 2011; Chen et al., 2012; Hong et al., 2013). For the ejected jet material, they found temperature and density values of 1.6 MK and (0.9–1.7)× $10^8~\rm cm^{-3}$ , respectively. For the base bright point, they found temperatures of around 1.3 MK, with no plasma hotter than 3 MK, and a density of  $7.6 \times 10^8~\rm cm^{-3}$ . They again find evidence that the jet was triggered by flux cancelation at its base.

### 3.3 Twists in Coronal Jets

Similar to the earlier-mentioned Shen et al. (2012) paper, several other works have discussed winding or twisting motions of EUV jets observed in AIA data. In this Section we highlight several of these papers, although some papers noted elsewhere also discuss twists in jets. Such twists could be important in regard to the driving mechanism for jets, and perhaps may even be important for the energization and mass balance of the upper atmosphere.

A study by Shen et al. (2011) showed a near-limb polar jet unwinding as it erupted, showing turns of  $\sim 1-2.5$  turns. Their data were EUV images from AIA, and also ground-based H $\alpha$  images from the SMART telescope (Ueno et al., 2004).

Morton et al. (2012) observed an EUV polar-region jet with blow-out characteristics that was best visible in 304 Å, among the AIA EUV channels they investigated. They found the jet to have periodic behavior on timescales of 50 s, and suggest similarities to type II spicules.

Lee et al. (2013) observed an AR jet with a wide array of instruments, including Hinode/XRT, SOT, and EIS, and STEREO/EUVI, in addition to AIA and HMI. They find hot and cool components to the jet, with a loop at the jet's base. They interpret that loop as possibly being emerging flux. The jet occurred near the solar limb as seen from the perspective of HMI, and so it was not possible to verify the magnetic evolution (emergence and/or cancelation) at the time of the jet; HMI data were used however to examine the region's magnetic geometry several days earlier. Several different-velocity components were detectable in various images. Basically, the hottest jet component had speed of  $\sim 250-280~{\rm km~s^{-1}}$ , while the cooler jet had two different velocity components of  $\sim 70-80~{\rm km~s^{-1}}$  and  $\sim 220-340~{\rm km~s^{-1}}$ . Helical motions were observed, primarily in AIA 304 Å images, with plane-of-sky velocities of  $\sim 30-60~{\rm km~s^{-1}}$ , that were decreasing with increasing height. Spectral observations from  $Hinode/{\rm EIS}$  show Doppler velocities blueshift-and redshift-velocities of  $\sim 70~{\rm km~s^{-1}}$  and  $8~{\rm km~s^{-1}}$ , respectively, and the authors point out that these shifts could be due to the helical motions. Other works (e.g.

Chen et al., 2012; Hong et al., 2013) also provide quantitative values for twisting motions in AIA-observed jets.

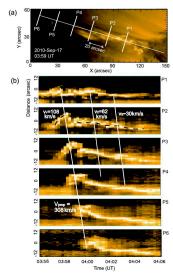


Fig. 11 AIA 171 Å images of undulating jet, from 2010 September 17. Panel (a) shows six different heights for which distance-time plots are shown in (b). In (b), the dashed black line highlights the undulating pattern, and the white lines show features tracked though the different panels at the indicated velocities. From Schmieder et al. (2013).

Schmieder et al. (2013) also examined a jet that occurred in the vicinity of an AR; specifically, their jet occurred in the weak field area adjacent to an AR. While it has not been rigorously established that coronal jets in ARs are the same as those occurring in coronal hole regions, the natural expectation is that most coronal jets would share similar or identical driving processes. Nonetheless, Schmieder et al. (2013) suggest that the jet they observed may be different from others. Using AIA and HMI data, they find evidence that reconnection at multiple sites leads to the jet, with differing reconnection sites being sequentially activated during the event. Independent of how the jet was launched, images of the jet spire in the corona shows undulatory transverse motions suggestive of the propagation of a (possibly torsional) Alfvén wave (Fig. 11).

Zhang and Ji (2014a) used SDO/AIA and HMI, STEREO/EUVI, and ground-based H $\alpha$  data to study a jet/surge occurring with a GOES C-class flare, which showed rotation that slowed from an average of  $\sim 120 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  to  $\sim 80 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . They observed that the rotation lasted for one cycle with a period of  $\sim 7 \text{ min}$ . They found the jet to have an initial upward velocity of  $\sim 250 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , and to accelerate at ( $\sim 0.33-0.5$ ) times the value of solar gravitation. Magnetic cancelation occurred near the base of the jet event prior to the start of the flare, and the jetting region was at the boundary of an AR and an open-field region.

Liu et al. (2014) examined an AR jet that showed twisting motions. They found twisting velocities ranging from  $\sim 30-110$  km s<sup>-1</sup>, with periods of  $\sim 20$  min. They studied the kinetic energy of the jet, and argue that post-reconnection relaxation of the magnetic field twist structure releases  $\sim 1.5$  times the energy released by reconnection. Thus the magnetic twist is a major contributor to the jet's energy.

Moore et al. (2013) found that 29 of the 32 jets visible in 304 Å showed axial rotation (this includes all three standard jets with 304 Å components); ten of

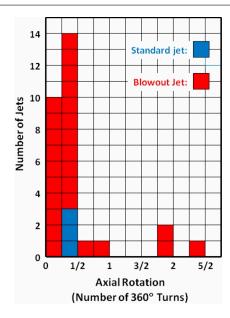


Fig. 12 Histogram showing amount of twist observed in AIA 304 Å movies of X-ray coronal jets, giving the number of jets and the amount of rotation (twisting or unwinding) during the observed lifetime of the 304 Å jets. From Moore et al. (2013).

these had modest twists of  $\lesssim \frac{1}{4}$  turns, 14 had twists of between  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  turns, while 5 jets had turns ranging from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{5}{2}$  turns (Fig. 12). They measured the plane-of-sky velocity of this axial rotation for three of their jets, and found values of  $\sim 60-70~\rm km~s^{-1}$ , similar to the velocities found by Lee et al. (2013). They suggested that the twists could have originated from a transfer of twist from closed field that reconnects with the open field (Shibata and Uchida, 1986; Canfield et al., 1996; Pariat et al., 2009, 2010; Moore et al., 2010; Schmieder et al., 2013). Moore et al. (2013) further suggest that it is plausible that type II spicules are generated by the same mechanism as these larger coronal jets, and that if this is the case, then there may be enough energy in the type II spicules to sustain the heating of the corona and the outflow of the solar wind (Moore et al., 2011).

#### 3.4 Other Jets

We do not yet know with certainty the interrelationship between jets seen at different wavelengths. From Moore et al. (2010, 2013), we know that some X-ray jets have corresponding cool-component counterparts visible in AIA 304 Å, and other X-ray jets do not have such a cool component. Thus there is not a one-to-one correspondence between these jet types. Apparently many if not all X-ray jets have EUV-jet counterparts (e.g. Raouafi et al., 2008), but again a full study of the correspondence has not yet been undertaken. Therefore caution should be exercised to not generalize results from studies of jets seen at one wavelength to jets in general.

Moschou et al. (2013) studied the properties of six AIA 304 Å coronal jets (they did not discuss other wavelength observations, and so it is not clear whether these 304 Å jets had hotter counterparts). They find that the 304 Å jets accelerate at a fraction of the value of solar gravity, i.e., their dynamics are determined by

forces other than gravity. (This is similar to some other studies, e.g. Zhang and Ji, 2014a, who observed at multiple wavelengths). Two of the Moschou et al. (2013) jets displayed helical patterns during ejection.

Srivastava and Murawski (2011) studied a jet that indeed seemed to have primarily a cool component, with little emission at EUV temperatures. They looked at a jet occurring in a PCH and at the solar limb in SDO/AIA images, and attempted to recreate the jet's properties using a 2-D MHD model and assuming an initial velocity pulse in the low atmosphere. Unlike many other jets discussed here, this one had substantial emission only in the 304 Å channel, and very little if any emission in hotter EUV channels such as 171 Å and 211 Å; thus this was a cool jet.<sup>2</sup> This cool jet had a lifetime of  $\sim$ 21 min, and reached a height of  $\sim$ 72 Mm. They were able to reproduce qualitative dynamics of the jet with the MHD model, suggesting that a velocity pulse in the low atmosphere might be responsible for the jet. (Chandrashekhar et al., 2014b, discussed in §3.2, provides another example of an apparently cool jet.)

Hong et al. (2014) studied jets in connection with CBPs using data from SDO/AIA and HMI. These CBPs are long-lasting features that are different from the transient base bright point brightenings that occur in conjunction with the jets themselves. From a study of 30 CBPs, they find that  $\sim 25-33\%$  of them experience one or more mini-filament eruptions, consistent with the blow-out-jet concept (Moore et al., 2010, 2013). They also found that one of their CBPs produced a jet, which was driven by a mini-filament eruption, consistent with other works (e.g. Hong et al., 2011; Shen et al., 2012; Yang et al., 2014; Adams et al., 2014). They report that the mini-filament eruptions possibly result from flux convergence and cancellation.

Innes et al. (2011) found the source of quasi-periodic type III radio bursts seen in WIND/WAVES dynamic spectra to be EUV jets observed in SDO/AIA 211 Å images. The jets occurred adjacent to a sunspot, and therefore were AR jets. The implication is that these jets gave rise to interplanetary electron streams. The authors also inspected the magnetic field environment, and report that no flux emergence occurred within 24 hours prior to the jet. Again, we point out that it is unclear whether AR jets are the same as those occurring in coronal holes, although it is plausible possibility that they are fundamentally identical.

Madjarska et al. (2011) examined three macro-spicules using SOHO/SUMER and Hinode/EIS, SOT, and XRT data. While Madjarska et al. (2011) did not directly use SDO/AIA data, their features had similarities to the properties of several AIA jets, having rising velocities of between 50 and 250 km s<sup>-1</sup>, reaching heights of  $\gtrsim 20,000$  km, and showing rotation that resembled untwisting of a flux rope. A key point of their study was addressing whether contentions by de Pontieu et al. (2011) that smaller-scale features they saw in AIA 171 Å and 211 Å are actually high-temperature spicules; specifically, de Pontieu et al. (2011) suggested that they observed in those EUV images Ca II spicules that were heated to coronal temperatures, and suggested that those hot spicules could be a major contributor to coronal heating. Madjarska et al. (2011) found that the large spicules they

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  No X-ray data were discussed in this work, and therefore we do not know whether there was a corresponding X-ray jet.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> These authors used both the terms "large spicules" and "macro-spicules" to describe the three objects they studied. These objects seem to be essentially the same as a macrospicule studied by Sterling et al. (2010) and the explosive event studied by Curdt et al. (2012).

observe do not contain plasma of temperatures in excess of 0.3 MK, and thus they argue that these features do not contain coronal material. By extension, they question whether the spicules observed in EUV by de Pontieu et al. (2011) are truly at coronal temperatures, with an alternative being that there could be transition-region-temperature material contributing to the 171 Å and 211 Å spicule observations of de Pontieu et al. (2011). In that case, Madjarska et al. (2011) argue, the spicules of de Pontieu et al. (2011) did not actually reach coronal temperatures, and therefore are not a key contributor to coronal heating.

We point out, however, that it is unclear whether the "large spicules" (macrospicules) of Madjarska et al. (2011) are actually larger versions of the much-more-ubiquitous smaller-scale spicules (such as those discussed in Sect. 9), and so the spicules and the "large spicules" may be or may not be the same physical objects occurring on different size scales. Nonetheless the point of caution raised by Madjarska et al. (2011) in interpreting the spicule 171 Å and 211 Å observations as coronal spicules is important.

On the other end of the intensity spectrum, Chen et al. (2013) studied a jet with AIA and HMI that occurred with a GOES C-class flare and that generated a RHESSI-observed hard X-ray (HXR) event, and a type III radio burst observed by Wind/Waves and two ground-based systems. Type III bursts are thought to be signatures of particle acceleration, perhaps due to magnetic reconnection. From a DEM analysis, they found that very high temperatures ( $\sim 10^7$  K) were produced at the base of the jet, which was also the location of the HXR source. This base was located at a mixed-polarity region. The HXRs, EUV emissions, and radio bursts occurred nearly simultaneously. For our purposes here perhaps the key finding of this work is that in many ways emissions from the base of this jet seem to mimic emissions from many "normal" flares.

Filippov et al. (2013) also observe a feature that may or may not be a version of the other jets we discuss here. They study the source of a white-light jet seen in the outer corona with the SOHO/LASCO chronograph. This coronal ray or jet showed apparent outward motions of  $\sim 200 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . From coronal images from AIA and from the PROBA2/SWAP telescope, along with HMI magnetograms, and also H $\alpha$  data, they find the source of the white-light jet to be an intricate magnetic/coronal structure located above at least two AR complexes that form a quadrupolar magnetic structure at the base of the jet. An Eiffel-tower-shaped structure sits above the quadrupole, and the jet forms along the upward extension of the tower shape. The authors report that the start of the event seems to have been a "failed" or "confined" eruption (e.g. Moore et al., 2001; Ji et al., 2003) occurring inside of the quadrupolar structure; it is conceivable that similar processes may occur on smaller scales to produce some fraction of coronal jets.

## 4 Spectroscopic Observations of Jets

In this Section we describe jet observations carried out by several spectrometers starting from the mid-90's. These include observations by CDS, SUMER, and UVCS on-board the *SOHO* mission, EIS on-board the *Hinode* mission, and IRIS. Details on each of these instruments are given in Table 3.

CDS consisted of two spectrometers (the normal incidence, NIS, and grazing incidence, GIS) fed by the same telescope that observed the 150–800 Å wavelength

Table 3 Solar ultraviolet spectrometers.

| Name  | Duration     | Wavelength           | Spatial      | Spectral                    | Slits           |
|-------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
|       |              | (Å)                  | Resolution   | Resolution                  |                 |
| CDS   | 1996–2014    | $308-381, 515-632^a$ | 6–10′′       | 0.3-0.5 Å                   | 2'', 4''        |
| SUMER | 1996 - 2014  | 660-1610             | 1.5''        | 0.1 Å                       | 0.3'', 1'', 4'' |
| UVCS  | 1996 – 2012  | $984-1080^a$ ,       | 20"          | $0.15\text{-}0.23~{ m \AA}$ | 3-100′′         |
|       |              | 1100 - 1361          |              |                             |                 |
| EIS   | 2006-present | 170-212,             | 3-4''        | 60  mÅ                      | 1'', 2''        |
|       |              | 246 - 292            |              |                             |                 |
| IRIS  | 2013-present | 1332 - 1358,         | 0.33 - 0.4'' | 26-53  mÅ                   | 0.33''          |
|       |              | 1389-1407,           |              |                             |                 |
|       |              | 2783-2835            |              |                             |                 |

 $<sup>\</sup>overline{a}$   $2^{nd}$  order lines are also seen.

range. The NIS was far more widely used than the GIS, and so we focus only on results from the NIS. Two wavelength bands 308-381 Å and 515–632 Å were observed with a spatial resolution of 6–8", although following the temporary loss of SOHO in 1998 the spatial resolution worsened to around 10" and line profiles developed extended wings. The wavebands consist mostly of emission lines from the upper transition region and corona (temperatures  $\geq 10^5$  K), with the important exception of the strong He I  $\lambda 584.3$  and He II  $\lambda 303.8$  emision lines (the latter observed in the second spectral order).

UVCS supplied detailed spectroscopic observations and diagnostics of jets in the outer corona from 1.4–10  $R_{\odot}$ . The instrument observes in two wavelength channels: the Ly- $\alpha$  channel covering the range 1160–1350 Å and the O VI channel covering the range 940–1123 Å (and 580–635 Å in the second order). The spectrometer slit had a length of 40 arcmin. The main lines of the two channels were the H I Ly- $\alpha$  line at 1215.7 Å, and the O VI doublet at 1031.9 and 1037.6 Å. In addition UVCS observed lines including H I Ly- $\beta$  (1025.7 Å), C III (977.02 Å), Mg x (609.7 and 624.9 Å), Fe xII (1242 Å), and Si xII (499.5 Å). These lines probe plasmas with temperatures in the range 0.03–2 MK. Given the weak signals from the outer corona, the analysis of UVCS observations frequently employs some binning along the slit leading to an effective spatial resolution  $\geq 20''$ . Finally, UVCS is equipped with a pinhole camera taking observations of the polarized radiance of the outer corona in the White Light in the wavelength range 4500–6000 Å.

The Hinode/EIS observes the Sun observes the Sun in two narrow wavelength bands of 170–212 and 246–292 Å that are dominated by coronal emission lines from iron but also contain some cooler lines, in particular He II  $\lambda 256.32$  (Young et al., 2007). The key advance over CDS is the use of multilayer coatings on the optical surfaces that give enhanced sensitivity and enable higher quality imaging with a spatial resolution of 3–4".

## 4.1 SOHO/CDS Results

A key discovery from CDS was the identification of twisting structures in macrospicules, mostly observed in PCHs. Pike and Harrison (1997) presented the first event, which was observed just inside the solar limb at the south coronal hole on 1996 April 11. The macrospicule was best seen in lines of He I and O V, but it

had a weak signature in Mg IX (1 MK) and so we consider it to be a coronal jet. Although Fig. 2 of this work shows He I and O V velocity maps with a redshift on one side of the jet, and a blueshift on the other side, it was only highlighted in the later paper of Pike and Mason (1998) who found a similar signature in six other events. They coined the term "solar tornado" to describe this feature. Of further importance was the finding of an increasing velocity with height in the 1996 April 11 event (Pike and Harrison, 1997), demonstrating that plasma continues to be accelerated along the body of the jet. Note that the velocity signatures from CDS only applied to the cool He I and O V lines as the signal was not strong enough in Mg IX to derive accurate Doppler shifts.

The Pike and Harrison (1997) and Pike and Mason (1998) results were derived from individual rasters. A time sequence of the evolution of a hot macrospicule was presented by Banerjee et al. (2000), and this again showed weak Mg IX emission, evidence for a twisted structure in O  $\nu$ , and an increase in the O  $\nu$  velocity with height. Another macrospicule observation was presented by Parenti et al. (2002), but this did not show a coronal signature.

#### 4.2 SOHO/SUMER Results

Wilhelm et al. (2002) reported on the observation of a coronal jet on Mar. 8, 1999, in a single raster scan. The Ne VIII  $\lambda$ 770.41 dopplergram showed a jet-like structure extending to 35 Mm, with LOS speeds of  $\sim$  40 km s<sup>-1</sup>.

A macrospicule at the limb of the south coronal hole was reported by Popescu et al. (2007). It was observed on 1997 February 25 with a sit-and-stare study, and showed a clear signature in Ne VIII  $\lambda 770.41$  and so we consider it to be a coronal jet. The jet extended about 36 Mm above the limb and was present for 5 minutes. The jet emission was identified by a red-shifted component at 135 km s<sup>-1</sup>.

A unique observation was presented by Kamio et al. (2010) who observed an X-ray jet at the solar limb in a coronal hole with Hinode/XRT. The STEREO/EUVI instruments observed a co-spatial macrospicule in the 304 Å filters, and SUMER and EIS rastered over the event, revealing hot emission in the Ne VIII  $\lambda$ 770.1 and Fe XII  $\lambda$ 195.12 emission lines. The Doppler patterns in the cool lines observed by SUMER (O IV  $\lambda$ 790.20) and EIS (He II  $\lambda$ 256.32) suggested a rotating motion for the broad macrospicule, and LOS speeds ranged from +50 to -120 km s<sup>-1</sup>. The coronal jet was visible in Ne VIII  $\lambda$ 770.40 as a very narrow streak extending above the limb with a LOS speed of -25 km s<sup>-1</sup>.

Another example of a coronal hole jet observed jointly by SUMER and EIS was presented by Madjarska (2011), who observed a jet in an equatorial coronal hole on 2007 November 14 using the SUMER sit-and-stare mode. The transition region lines (O v  $\lambda$ 629.70 and N v  $\lambda$ 1238.82) showed a strong velocity signature from the jet, but no signature was seen in the coronal Mg x  $\lambda$ 624.94, in stark contrast to the coronal observations from EIS (Sect. 4.4). The jet was demonstrated to be correlated with X-ray bursts in the bright point, and magnetic reconnection was suggested as the driver for the jet.

## 4.3 SOHO/UVCS Results

Dobrzycka et al. (2000) presented the first detailed observations of coronal jets with UVCS. They analyzed a set of 5 polar jets, also tracked by EIT and LASCO, at radial distances 2.06-2.4  $R_{\odot}$ . The passage of these polar jets through the UVCS slit was manifested as increases in the intensity of the H<sub>I</sub> Ly- $\alpha$  (30–75 %; see Fig. 13) and the OVI doublet (50–150 %) lines. The increase took place either simultaneously in both H<sub>I</sub> Ly- $\alpha$  and O<sub>VI</sub> or H<sub>I</sub> Ly- $\alpha$  had a delay of about 20 minutes with respect to Ovi. Interestingly the observed spectral lines became narrower during the observed jets, suggesting that the jets contained cooler plasmas than the background corona. Dobrzycka et al. (2000) applied two different models to one of the observed jets. The first model is a temperature-independent line-synthesis model and supplied estimates on plasma parameters. It was found out that during the jet passage through the UVCS slit the electron temperature decreased from  $\approx 0.75$  MK to  $\approx 0.15$  MK while the density decreased by a factor of  $\approx 1.2$  from its initial value of  $4.5 \times 10^6 \text{cm}^{-3}$ . The outflow speed was estimated from the Doppler dimming effect to be  $> 280 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ; the observed jets exhibited small Doppler-shifts which suggests a quasi-radial flow. The second model was a time-dependent temperature and density non-ionization prescription of an expanding plasma parcel which showed that an initial electron temperature < 2.5MK and heating rate commensurate to that of a "standard" coronal hole were required at the coronal base. This suggests that the heating requirements of coronal jets observed in coronal holes in the EUV and WL can be different and lower than those for the more energetic SXR jets.

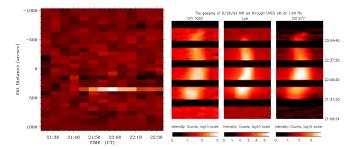


Fig. 13 UVCS observations of jets. (Left) H I Ly- $\alpha$  intensity a function of time and location along the UVCS slit. The jet passage corresponds to the bright stripe seen around slit distance 400"[from Dobrzycka et al. (2000)]. (Right) Intensity images formed by stacking subsequent exposures at 1.64 R<sub> $\odot$ </sub> in O VI, H I Ly- $\alpha$  and C III at different times during a jet [from Ko et al. (2005)].

In a follow-up study, Dobrzycka et al. (2002) analyzed UVCS observations of a set of 6 polar jets observed in H I Ly- $\alpha$  and O VI between 1.5-2.5 R $_{\odot}$ . This study extended the basic results of the Dobrzycka et al. (2000) study. A heating flux of  $\approx 3\times 10^5$  erg cm $^{-2}$  s $^{-1}$ , based on the Wang (1994) plume model and non-equilibrium ionization calculations of a moving plasma parcel, at the coronal base was required to reproduce the jet emissions as observed by UVCS. The postulated heating flux had to be concentrated into a narrow region below 1.1 R $_{\odot}$  and corresponded to

an electron temperature of around 2 MK. They also analyzed LASCO-C2 data of the observed jets and found densities comparable to plume values and 1.5 times higher than interplume densities at the same heights.

Ko et al. (2005) presented a comprehensive study of an AR coronal jet. The jet was traced from the Sun to the outer corona via an array of instruments including UVCS. The jet was associated with huge increases of several hundred with respect to the background corona in H I Ly- $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , a factor 30 in C III, and a factor 8 in OVI (see Fig. 13). This suggests that the jet contained significant amounts of cool material at around 10<sup>5</sup> K. Significant Doppler-shifts first towards the blue  $(150 \text{ km s}^{-1})$  and then towards the red  $(100 \text{ km s}^{-1})$  were observed by UVCS; similar Doppler-shift evolution but this time first from the red and then to the blue was observed during the early stages of the jet at the limb by CDS and MLSO/CHIP (i.e., the Mauna Loa Solar Observatory/Chromospheric Helium-I Imaging Photometer). The UVCS Doppler-shift pattern correlated with the corresponding outflow velocities deduced via the Doppler-dimming effect. The changing signs of the jet's Doppler-shifts both near the limb and in the outer corona may be consistent with rotation of the structure during its ascent. Both near-limb and UVCS observations suggested a dominance of the cool material over the hot material implying different physical processes behind the formation of the two components.

Dobrzycka et al. (2003) analyzed 5 narrow CMEs (eruptions with angular width below 15°) with the aim to study the possible connection between such eruptions and jets. The deduced plasma parameters of the narrow CMEs yielded similar speeds and somewhat higher densities and temperatures by a maximum factor of 2 compared to coronal jets. Taken altogether these findings did not suggest a clear dividing line between narrow CMEs and jets, which is consistent with the blow-out jets (Moore et al., 2010) which represent scaled-down versions of CMEs.

Corti et al. (2007) analyzed observations of several cool jets during a SOHO-Ulysses quadrature. The jets were first observed by EIT in its 304 Å channel. Once they intercepted the UVCS slit at 1.7 R $_{\odot}$  strong emissions in the cool lines H I Ly- $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , O VI, and C III were recorded (e.g., > 10 times the background values in in some lines). The jets were not observed in any of the hot lines available by UVCS. Empirical modeling of the spectral line intensities resulted in jet densities in the range  $(8.3-13)\times 10^6$  cm $^{-3}$  and temperatures of up to  $\approx 1.7\times 10^5$  K. The jets' average mass, gravitational, kinetic and thermal energies were estimated to  $10^{13}$  g and  $1.9\times 10^{28}$ ,  $2.1\times 10^{27}$  and  $1.5\times 10^{26}$  erg, respectively. Finally, no conclusive evidence for an in-situ detection of these jets by Ulysses was found.

#### 4.4 Hinode/EIS Results

We divide the EIS jets into coronal hole and active region categories.

## 4.4.1 Coronal Hole Jets

The key advance of the EIS spectrometer relevant to coronal jets (particularly in CHs) is the high instrument sensitivity for the Fe XII  $\lambda 195.12$  emission line. The previously faint coronal signals of CDS and SUMER meant that, even if jets were detected, it was not possible to study velocities and line broadening.

The advances of EIS were demonstrated with an impressive Fe XII Doppler map in Kamio et al. (2007), showing LOS velocities of up to 30 km s<sup>-1</sup> for a jet on Jan. 09, 2007, extending about 60 Mm above a coronal hole bright point. A jet occurring in an ECH on Mar. 10, 2007, was studied by Moreno-Insertis et al. (2008). EIS was operating in sit-and-stare mode with the slit positioned about 11 Mm above the bright point. The Fe XII line showed a two component structure, with a blue-shifted component at 240 km s<sup>-1</sup>. The second component was simply due to the coronal hole background and was found at the rest wavelength of the line. This observation illustrates an important point when analyzing the Fe XII line: the corona is everywhere emitting at 1.5 MK, and so the line profile of a jet is always a mixture of jet plasma and background plasma. In cases such as Moreno-Insertis et al. (2008) the two components are clearly separated, but the Kamio et al. (2007) jet is an example where the two are blended. By fitting only a single Gaussian to the Fe XII line, the jet velocity is underestimated. A two Gaussian fit would have led to a larger velocity for the Kamio et al. (2007) jet component.

The coronal hole jet studied by Kamio et al. (2010) (discussed in Sect. 4.2) was captured in a single EIS raster scan and observed as a very narrow streak in the Fe xii  $\lambda 195.12$  line, extending 75 Mm above the limb. The LOS velocity was  $-20~{\rm km~s}^{-1}$ .

Another jet observed simultaneously with SUMER was the ECH jet presented by Madjarska (2011) and discussed in Sect. 4.2. The jet was seen in a single raster scan, and the outflowing plasma was emitted in a wide range of lines from He II  $\lambda 256.32$  to Fe xv  $\lambda 284.16$ , and the LOS speed was up to 279 km s<sup>-1</sup>. A density measurement in the jet was not possible, however.

Young and Muglach (2014a,b) and Young (2015) presented coronal hole observations obtained from an EIS data-set that spanned almost two days during 2011 February 8–10 and captured a number of jets. Young and Muglach (2014a) studied a jet on the coronal hole boundary for which the jet took the form of an expanding loop reaching heights of 30 Mm. The LOS speeds reached 250 km s<sup>-1</sup>, and evidence was found for twisting motions based on the variation of Doppler shift in the transverse direction of the jet. The density of the jet plasma, measured with a Fe XII density diagnostic, was  $(0.9-1.7)\times10^8$  cm<sup>-3</sup> and the temperature was 1.6 MK.

The largest and most dynamic jet from the data-set was presented by Young and Muglach (2014b). It extended to 87 Mm from the bright point and LOS speeds reached 250 km s $^{-1}$ . The density of the jet plasma was  $2.8 \times 10^8$  cm $^{-3}$  and the temperature was 1.4 MK. A feature in common with the Young and Muglach (2014a) jet was the increase in LOS speed with height above the bright point showing that plasma continued to be accelerated along the body of the jet. The jet bright point showed a number of small, intense kernels as the jet began, reminiscent of flare kernels, and cool plasma was ejected as seen through an absorption feature in AIA 304 Å images.

Young (2015) demonstrated that almost half of the 24 jet events seen in the 2011 February data-set showed no signature in AIA 193 Å image sequences, and so referred to them as "dark jets". One dark jet was studied in detail, and was found to have a Fe XII  $\lambda$ 195.12 intensity only 15–44% of the coronal hole background. The LOS speed of the jet plasma reached 107 km s<sup>-1</sup> at a height of 30 Mm from the bright point, and the temperature was 1.2–1.3 MK.

The work described above made use of narrow slit EIS data, which enables a full range of diagnostics to be applied. EIS also has a 40" wide slit, enabling monochromatic imaging at high cadence. This was used by Culhane et al. (2007b) who studied how two PCH jets observed on 2007 January 20 evolved with time. Ejection speeds of 360 and 150 km s<sup>-1</sup> were measured, and the jet was found to emit in multiple ions, the hottest of which was Fe xv  $\lambda$ 284.16 (2.2 MK). Chandrashekhar et al. (2014a) studied another PCH jet observed on 2007 April 15 and derived a propagation velocity of 172 km s<sup>-1</sup> from images in the Fe XII  $\lambda$ 195.12.

## 4.4.2 Active Region Jets

Chifor et al. (2008a,b) presented observations of a recurring jet on the west side of AR10938 during the period 15-16 Jan. 2007. One of the jets was captured in a single raster (Chifor et al., 2008a) in emission lines formed over the temperature range log T=5.4 to 6.4. The signature of the jets was an extended short wavelength wing to the coronal emission lines with LOS speeds of 150 km s<sup>-1</sup>and very high densities (i.e., log  $N_e \ge 11$ ) as shown from diagnostics of Fe XIII and Fe XIII lines.

Other examples of AR jets were observed in AR10960 on Jun. 05, 2007 (Matsui et al., 2012) and at the limb in AR11082 on Jun. 27, 2010 (Lee et al., 2013). The ejected jet plasma in the Jun. 05, 2007 event could be identified in coronal lines up to log T = 6.4 (Fe XVI  $\lambda 262.98$ ). Taking into account the viewing geometries of the twin STEREO spacecraft, accurate estimates of outward jet speed were inferred through analysis of lines formed over the temperature range  $\log T = 4.9$ to 6.4. The speed was found to increase with temperature in the corona from  $\approx$  160 to  $\approx$  430 km  $\rm s^{-1},$  which is consistent with predictions for chromospheric evaporation during a reconnection process (Matsui et al., 2012). The Jun. 27, 2010 jet occurred on a large, closed loop and was very prominent in 304 Å images from AIA. EIS was running in sit-and-stare mode and the slit crossed through the jet about 40 Mm above the solar surface. A signal in Fe xv  $\lambda 284.16$  is seen at the same time as X-ray emission is seen from XRT, confirming a jet temperature of around 2.2 MK. Evidence for twisting motions in the jet are found from simultaneous red and blue-shifts in Si VII  $\lambda 275.36$  (0.63 MK). For temperatures of 1–2 MK the jet appeared as a dimming region that traveled along the loop. The density of the loop was estimated at  $3 \times 10^8$  cm<sup>-3</sup> from the Fe xiv  $\lambda 264.79/\lambda 274.20$  ratio.

In summary, the AR jets observed by EIS are generally hotter than those seen in CHs, with the ejected plasma emitting in Fe xv and Fe xvI, suggesting temperatures of 2-3 MK. Chifor et al. (2008a) found a very high coronal density of  $\geq 10^{11}~{\rm cm}^{-3}$  but further observations are needed to determine how common this is.

## 5 Jet Dynamics: Statistics, CHs boundaries

## 5.1 Regionality of Coronal Jets

The comparatively modest-quality observations from Yohkoh/SXT unveiled the most energetic jets that often occur around ARs (Shimojo et al., 1996). The recent much improved quality observations show that a higher number of jets occur in CHs (Savcheva et al., 2007). Although CH and QS jets are smaller than AR jets

(Savcheva et al., 2007; Sako et al., 2013), averages of the apparent speeds are comparable and are about 200 km s $^{-1}$ . Plasma parameters such as temperature are characterized by larger error bars and are often model dependent. For details, see  $\S4$ .

Subramanian et al. (2010) investigated transient brightenings, including jets, within CHs and quiet regions. They found that CH boundaries are particularly prolific in terms of brightenings occurrence and about 70% of these events within CHs and their boundaries show expanding loop structures and/or collimated outflows, while only 30% of the brightenings in QS show flows. Sake et al. (2013) analyzed over a thousand CH (northern PCH) and QS jets. They found that jet occurrence rate in CH boundaries is twice as large as that in polar CHs. Flux emergence/cancellation rates cannot explain this difference (Sake et al., 2013). Yang et al. (2011) reported on westward shifts in the boundaries of CHs so that their rigid rotation is maintained. It can be easily imagined that a coronal jet is produced by magnetic reconnection between the open field in a CH and the closed loop in a quiet region (i.e., interchange reconnection), which suggests that the coronal (global) magnetic topology need to be considered for understanding this phenomenon.

## 5.2 Dynamics of Coronal Jets

Except for the rare occurrence of large jets (Shibata et al., 1994), Yohkoh/SXT observations did not allow investigating the inner structure and evolution of jets. Alexander and Fletcher (1999) used Yohkoh-TRACE joint observations to obtain some insight into jets' fine structure. The recent high-quality X-ray/EUV data from Hinode, STEREO, and SDO reveal the complex structure and dynamics of these coronal events. In the following sections, we discuss the dynamics of coronal jets from the morphology and statistics point of view.

#### 5.2.1 Transverse Motion

Shibata et al. (1992) reported on a coronal jet moving sideways with velocity of 20–30 km s<sup>-1</sup>. Canfield et al. (1996) used jet reconnection model to interpret whip-like motions and footpoint blue-shifts of coronal jet-associated H $\alpha$  surges. Nevertheless, detailed observations of jet transverse motions were uncovered using on-disk and mainly off-limb Hinode observations. A statistical study by Savcheva et al. (2007) of 104 PCH events showed that more than 50% of jets display transverse motions with  $\sim\!35~{\rm km~s^{-1}}$ . Chandrashekhar et al. (2014a) found that the transverse motion speed decreases with increasing height. Higher velocity (> 100 km s<sup>-1</sup>) transverse motions have been reported by Shimojo et al. (2007) in several coronal jets, and that one event showed whip-like motion presumably following the opening of reconnected closed field lines. It can be easily speculated that whip-like motions result from the relaxation of the reconnected guide magnetic field.

There are two flavors of jet transverse motions: expanding motions and oscillations. Moore et al. (2010) interpreted expanding jets as "curtain-like spires". Theoretically, the speed of the reconnected flux is  $100-1000~\rm km~s^{-1}$  assuming an Alfvén speed of  $1000~\rm km~s^{-1}$  (Canfield et al., 1996). The observed speeds (i.e.,  $\sim 35~\rm km~s^{-1}$ ) are, however, significantly smaller than the theoretical prediction.

This may hint at expansion of the reconnection region rather than motion of reconnected magnetic flux. On the other hand, Cirtain et al. (2007) reported the first detection of the transverse oscillations in a coronal jet, which can be used to infer a number of physical parameters (e.g., temperature, magnetic field) in the corona using magneto-seismology. Morton et al. (2012) studied oscillations of a jet dark thread (i.e., the jet's inner structure) and found a period of 360 seconds. They inferred a temperature of  $< 3 \times 10^4$  K from kink mode oscillations. Chandrashekhar et al. (2014b) analyzed oscillations of the bright thread of a CH-boundary jet. They inverted the oscillation's 220 second period into magnetic field strength of 1.2 Gauss. They also reported strong damping of the transverse oscillations that are characterized by a velocity amplitude of 20 km s<sup>-1</sup>.

## 5.2.2 Untwisting Motion of Jet Helical Structure

Patsourakos et al. (2008) successfully reconstructed a coronal jet in 3D using nearsimultaneous observations from the STEREO twin spacecraft. They unambiguously showed the helical structure of the jet, which was later confirmed through 3D-MHD simulations by Pariat et al. (2009). Nisticò et al. (2009) carried out a morphological analysis of 79 jets observed by STEREO. They found that 31 jets showed helical structures. This studies confirm that helical jets are common and that untwisting motions may also be an important properties of a significant class of jets. This, however, could not be confirmed from STEREO observations. Spectroscopic observations may in this case as untwisting motions appear in Dopplergrams as positive and negative LOS-velocities side-by-side along the flow direction, which is a common feature in cool jets (i.e.,  $H\alpha$  Surge: Ohman et al. 1968, Xu et al. 1984, Gu et al. 1994, Canfield et al. 1996; spray: Kurokawa et al. 1987; macrospicule: Pike and Mason 1998, Kamio et al. 2010). EUV observations, on the other hand, seems to point that untwisting motions may not be a common property of EUV jets (Kamio et al., 2007; Matsui et al., 2012), even when they are associated with cool components displaying the characteristic untwisted motions (Lee et al., 2013). This inconsistency between stereoscopic and spectroscopic observations is puzzling. One possibility is that the sensitivity and time cadence of current spectroscopic observations may not be sufficient for the measurement of untwisting motions. If this is correct, untwisting motions should be significantly slower than the flow. To understand the driving mechanism of coronal jets, especially to evaluate the contribution of  $\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$  force for accelerating a coronal jet (Shibata and Uchida, 1986), it is essential to know the properties of untwisting motion. New instruments with better capabilities are also needed.

## 5.2.3 Apparent Speed of Coronal Jets

Since the flow speed is a key parameter for understanding the acceleration mechanism(s) of jets, different approaches have been adopted for the measurement of apparent speeds. Since polar jets are nearly-radial, the difference between the apparent and real speeds may be small. For AR jets, additional information, such as spectroscopic measurements, is needed. Matsui et al. (2012) and Sako (2014) measured speed for relatively long jets (< few  $\times 10^4$  km) using STEREO data. They found that apparent speeds are 10-20% smaller than real velocities. This

indicated that using apparent speeds might be adequate in most cases keeping in mind that these velocities are the lower limits.

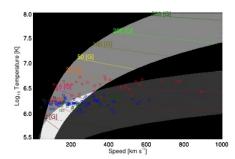


Fig. 14 Jet temperature-speed map. The dark and light gray regions correspond to where the magnetically-driven and thermally-driven (evaporation) jets, respectively. The white region indicates where both jet classes might appear. The red, green and blue squares indicate the jets occurred in ARs, QS, and CHs, respectively. The colored solid/dashed lines indicate theoretical predictions of the magnetic field strength. From Sako (2014).

Most measurements of jet apparent speeds are around 200 km s<sup>-1</sup>, which is smaller than jet's sound speed. The 200 km s<sup>-1</sup> is also comparable to the sound speed at coronal temperatures (e.g., Shimojo et al., 1996; Savcheva et al., 2007). This led Shimojo and Shibata (2000) to conclude that jets' high temperatures and dense flows are the result of chromospheric evaporation, which can also explain the jet mass. Chromospheric evaporation is therefore considered a strong candidate for jet acceleration. Numerical simulations of jets show the presence of flows with Alfvén speed ( $\sim 1000~{\rm km~s}^{-1};$  e.g., Yokoyama and Shibata, 1994). This has been confirmed by Cirtain et al. (2007) using Hinode/XRT observations. The high-speed component may not be fundamental as it appears intermittently during the jet flow evolution at the much lower apparent speed. The two flows are produced simultaneously in a jet, which has been predicted by Shibata et al. (1992). It remains, however, unclear what component dominates and whether the fast component is magnetically driven. Sako (2014) studied a number of long jets and classified them into thermal or magnetic dominated events based on comparison of the observed temperature – speed relation with theoretical predictions (Fig. 14). He found that both classes exist all over the solar disk and that in ARs the number of thermally-driven jets is larger than the magnetically-driven ones. In CHs and QS, however, jets are distributed in the overlapping region of the temperature-speed map (Fig. 14). From their result, it is not clear what physical parameter is most important for the selection of the jet dominant component. The magnetic field strength is an important parameter but not critical since both jet classes occur in all regions. Magnetic topology and free energy may be necessary to address this question.

### 6 Relationship to other coronal structures

#### 6.1 Jet - Plume Connection

Coronal jets are characterized by their transient nature and often appear as collimated high-temperature beams presumably guided by open magnetic fields. In contrast, coronal plumes, which are most prominent and pervasive within coronal

holes, are hazy without sharp edges as seen in EUV 171 Å and white-light images. They are also significantly wider than jets ( $\sim 20-40$  Mm; Wilhelm, 2006) and may reach up to  $\sim 30~R_{\odot}$  above the solar surface (see Deforest et al., 1997). Until recently, coronal jets and plumes have been studied independently and any eventual interrelationship has not been considered. They, however, share common characteristics. They are both episodic in nature and are usually rooted in the chromospheric network where magnetic reconnection is thought to play a key role in their formation (see Canfield et al., 1996; Wang, 1998). The connection between jets and plumes is important for understanding their formation processes and evolution and their eventual contribution to the heating and acceleration of the solar wind.

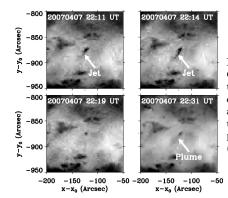


Fig. 15 EUV images from SEC-CHI/EUVI on STEREO-A illustrating the connection between coronal jets and plumes. Jets are often observed to erupt prior to and during the lifetime of plumes. From Raouafi et al. (2008).

Raouafi et al. (2008) investigated the jet – plume relationship using Hinode/XRT and STEREO/SECCHI observations that were recorded during the deep solar minimum (2007 April 7-8; see Fig. 15). A total of 28 X-ray jets were analyzed. Raouafi et al. (2008) discovered that > 90% of the jets were associated with plume haze and  $\sim 70\%$  of these jets are followed by polar plumes with a time delay ranging from minutes to tens of minutes. Raouafi et al. (2008) and Raouafi (2009) argue that coronal jets are precursors of plumes. They also noted that jet eruptions within the footpoints of preexisting plumes cause an enhancement of the plumes' brightness. In addition, short-lived, jetlike events occur within the footpoints of plumes. Raouafi et al. (2008) argue that these jetlike events ensure the continuous rise of haze and may contribute to the change in plume brightness (see Deforest et al., 1997). Their interpretation of the observations is that jets result from impulsive magnetic reconnection of emerging flux (e.g., Yokoyama and Shibata, 1995), where longer-living plumes may be the result of lower-rate magnetic reconnection as shown by the short-lived, small bright points and jetlike events observed within their footpoints.

Recently, Raouafi and Stenborg (2014) took advantage of the high-quality data from the  $SDO/{\rm AIA}$  and  $SDO/{\rm HMI}$  to analyze the coronal conditions leading to the formation and evolution of coronal plumes. Prior to the SDO era, the spatial and temporal resolution of the imaging instruments were limited and therefore coronal plumes and their fine structure could not be fully resolved and their temporal evolution could not be analyzed in detail. This might be the reason that coronal

plumes are often referred to in the literature as "hazy" structures and heuristic assumptions on the plasma heating and acceleration at their source regions are typically the norm in numerical models.

Raouafi and Stenborg (2014) focused particularly on the fine structure within plume footpoints and on the role of transient magnetic activity in sustaining these structures for relatively lengthy periods of time (several days). In addition to nominal jets occurring prior to and during the development of plumes, the data show that a large number of small jets ("jetlets") and plume transient bright points (PTBPs) occur on timescales of tens of seconds to a few minutes. These features are the result of quasi-random cancellations of fragmented and diffuse minority magnetic polarity with the dominant unipolar magnetic field concentration over an extended period of time. They unambiguously reflect a highly dynamical evolution at the footpoints and are seemingly the main energy source for plumes. This suggests a tendency for plumes to be dependent on the occurrence of transients (i.e., jetlets, and PTBPs) resulting from low-rate magnetic reconnection. The present findings may be of great importance for the interpretation of future measurements by different instruments on board the Solar Probe Plus and Solar Orbiter. These future measurements may provide further details on the plasma thermodynamics, such as heating and acceleration of solar wind particles within coronal plumes.

## 6.2 Jet-Sigmoid Connection

Historically, the distinctive collimated structure of coronal jets inspired the "anemone model," in which the jet is the result of a dipolar magnetic structure reconnecting with a slanted background field (Shimojo and Shibata, 2000) and that the previously trapped plasma is channeled into a collimated beam on open magnetic field lines (Yokoyama and Shibata, 1995; Karpen et al., 1998; Archontis et al., 2005, 2006, 2007). Although the anemone model has been shown to reproduce many morphological features of coronal jets, it also exhibits shortcomings in explaining other properties such as helical structures (see Shimojo et al., 1996; Canfield et al., 1996; Patsourakos et al., 2008; Nisticò et al., 2009) and apparent transverse motions (see Savcheva et al., 2009) of numerous jet events.

Raouafi et al. (2010) took advantage of the exceptional data quality from XRT, EIS, and EUVI. They studied the morphology and fine structure of XBPs leading to coronal jets in conjunction with their characteristics (i.e., untwisting motions, transverse apparent motions, etc.). The resolved structure of some bright regions is more complex than previously assumed. Several jet events in the coronal holes are found to erupt from small-scale, S-shaped bright regions (see Fig. 16). This finding suggests that coronal small-scale (micro-) sigmoids (Rust and Kumar, 1996) may well be progenitors of coronal jets. Moreover, the presence of these structures may explain numerous observed characteristics of jets such as helical structures, apparent transverse motions, and shapes.

Patsourakos & Raouafi (2015, in preparation) investigated the case of a small sigmoidal bright point within an equatorial coronal hole. The underlying magnetic fields show significant emergence as well as cancellation that lead to the formation of the sigmoid, which lasted for several hours. The full eruption of this sigmoid was the result of the cancellation of large magnetic flux that resulted in a large

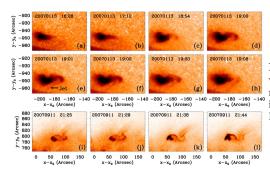


Fig. 16 Hinode/XRT observations of XBPs evolving into micro-sigmoid and then erupting into jets. For details see Raouafi et al. (2010).

jet. This analysis shows that the evolution of the small-scale coronal features have similarities with large magnetic regions.

#### 7 A Brief Discussion of Spicules and Similar Jets

Spicules are pervasive in the cooler solar atmosphere (chromosphere and transition region). They are proportionately long and narrow objects that shoot outward from the Sun's surface, and therefore they fit into the category of *solar jets*. The literature on them however is vast, as they have been observed for over a century. We will highlight a few recent issues regarding spicules, leaving fuller discussions to other venues. For reviews of spicules see Beckers (1968, 1972); Bray and Loughhead (1974); Michard (1974); Sterling (2000); Tsiropoula et al. (2012).

## 7.1 "Type I" and "Type II" Spicules

In the last few decades the most significant jump in spicule observations has come from  $Hinode/{\rm SOT}.$  An early consequence was the introduction of terminology for "type I" and "type II" of spicules by de Pontieu et al.  $(2007)^4$  based on their appearance in images obtained with the SOT Ca II H filter. Type II spicules are dominant in coronal holes and quiet Sun, have relatively fast upward velocities of 30 to 110 km s $^{-1}$ , comparatively short lifetimes of 50 to 150 s, and usually fade out of the Ca II passband after achieving their maximum height. In contrast, Type I spicules are seen almost exclusively in ARs, have relatively slow speeds of 15 to 40 km s $^{-1}$ , comparatively long lives of 3 to 10 min, and show distinct up-and-down motions.

Comparing Ca II spicules with He II 304 Å spicules observed with SDO/AIA, de Pontieu et al. (2011) found that type II spicules apparently become heated out of the Ca II emitting regime and into the emission at 304 Å, and then fall (also see Pereira et al., 2014). This observation is consistent with earlier suggestions to explain why ground-based observations show spicules fading from the H $\alpha$  band (e.g. Pneuman and Kopp, 1978). Given this, it is reasonable to revisit the more general

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Beckers (1968) also introduced "type I" and "type II" terminology for spicules. His definition was based on spicule spectral line widths, and has no connection with the terms as used by de Pontieu et al. (2007).

question of whether all spicules are fundamentally the same phenomenon, with the same driving mechanism(s) (Zhang et al., 2012b) but factors in the respective environments determine whether the spicules are heated enough (are not heated enough) to fade from Ca II in coronal holes, resulting in spicules with "type II" properties (to fade in Ca II before completing their up-down cycle, resulting in spicules with "type I" properties). This thrilling question is still unresolved.

#### 7.2 "Classical" Spicules

Another term that is sometimes used in recent literature on spicules is "classical spicules." Sterling et al. (2010) used this term to differentiate the "type I" and "type II" spicules of Hinode, from the objects historically studied from the ground (mostly based on  $H\alpha$  observations; see Beckers, 1968, 1972; Pasachoff et al., 2009). The point is that the spicules observed with Hinode/SOT Ca II have somewhat different properties from those earlier-era long-studied spicules. For example, the classical spicules were reported to have lifetimes of  $\approx 5$  to 10 min and upward velocities of  $\approx 25$  km s<sup>-1</sup>. These values exceed substantially those of type II spicules. Whether these differences are due to passband, or due to the improved resolution and cadence of the newer observations, is not immediately clear. Therefore it seems prudent to be cautious in making connections between the older "classical" studies, and the type I and type II spicules. Hence it seems appropriate to use the term "classical spicules" for the earlier-studied objects, and type I and type II spicules for the Hinode-era objects as defined as above.

Pereira et al. (2013) addressed whether artificially degrading SOT-observed type II spicules resulted in features resembling the properties of the classical spicules. The degraded type II spicules did indeed resemble the classical spicules in apparent lifetime ( $\sim 5$  min) and in velocities ( $\sim 25$  km s<sup>-1</sup>). It is still not clear however whether the degraded spicules correctly reproduce the classical observations in terms of the number of spicules seen to fall back to the surface.

Several works equate type I spicules with classical spicules (Scullion et al., 2011; Tsiropoula et al., 2012; Klimchuk, 2012; Klimchuk and Bradshaw, 2014). This is an incorrect association, or at best it is gratuitously confusing. Even though type I spicules have properties apparently similar to those of classical spicules, the two features are reportedly seen in very different regions of the atmosphere: type I spicules are almost exclusively seen in ARs, whereas classical spicules were rarely if ever reported to be observed in ARs and are specifically not observed over plage regions (Michard, 1974; Zirin, 1988). In contrast, both type II and classical spicules are prominent in coronal holes and quiet Sun regions (Rabin and Moore, 1980). Therefore, if type I and type II spicules are different entities, then, between type I and type II spicules, it would be expected that classical spicules correspond to type II spicules, not type I spicules. This is consistent with the results of the Pereira et al. (2013) study.

## 7.3 Twists on Spicules

Indications that spicules were rotational features had already been found prior to the high-resolution imaging capabilities of recent instruments, via fascinating spectroscopic observations (Pasachoff et al., 1968; Beckers, 1972; Rompolt, 1975). Now, instruments with sub-arcsecond capability are available both in space and on the ground that are capable of resolving spicule fine structures and motions. Just to mention a few studies, Rutten (2013) identified twists in spicules, de Pontieu et al. (2014a) found ubiquitous torsional motion, and Tavabi et al. (2015) reported untwisting behavior. The mechanisms behind this empirical result are still under discussion.

## 7.4 Spicule Connections with Other Features

Madjarska and Doyle (2003) opened an ongoing discussion on whether spicules, blinkers, and explosive events might be the same phenomenon, with a view towards a unification of features within the zoo of small-scale eruptive events.

The relationship between the spicule-type jets discussed in this Section and the coronal jets discussed in the bulk of this review has so far only been briefly investigated. Sterling et al. (2010) and Curdt et al. (2012) have looked at Ca II images at the times and locations of the occurrence of jets seen in X-rays and EUV. In both of those studies, the Ca II showed features that could be considered a group of typically-sized (width of  $\sim 100 \ \mathrm{km}$ ) type II spicules, aligned in tandem over the width of the corresponding EUV or X-ray feature (which had width  $\sim 1000 \ \mathrm{km}$ ). Therefore, some of the features commonly identified as type II spicules in Ca II images may be strands of substantially wider coronal-jet structures. In other studies, it has been suggested that many of the type II spicules themselves may be miniature versions of coronal jets (e.g. Moore et al., 2011); this is an interesting possibility that has not yet been resolved.

## 8 Jets, Solar Wind, and Solar Energetic Particles

# 8.1 Association Between Jets and Impulsive SEP Events

Solar energetic particle (SEP) events are typically put into classes: "gradual" and "impulsive". The former are intense, long-lasting, and are generally associated with large, fast CMEs. They are less correlated with impulsive flares and are characterized by the abundances and charge states of the solar wind. The continuous injection and acceleration of the particles are believed to originate at the CMEdriven shock wave (e.g., Kahler et al., 1984). Impulsive SEP events, on the other hand, are smaller, less intense, last less than a day, and are characterized by high charge states (Reames et al., 1988). The particles seem to originate from source regions with temperatures  $\gg 1$  MK (e.g., flare sites with  $T > 10^7$  K). They are typically rich in heavy ion species relative to coronal abundances (e.g., Fe/O $\sim$ 10) and are often referred to as "<sup>3</sup>He-rich events" because of their high <sup>3</sup>He/<sup>4</sup>He ratio of  $\approx 10^3$  (see Hsieh and Simpson, 1970; Reames, 2002; Wang et al., 2006; Nitta et al., 2006). Impulsive SEP events are also well correlated with metric and kilometric type III radio bursts (see Kahler et al., 1987; Reames et al., 1985, 1988; Reames and Stone, 1986; Kundu et al., 1994; Reames, 2002). They are particularly found to coincide also with X-ray jets (Kundu et al., 1995; Raulin et al.,

1996; Glesener et al., 2012). A review by Reames (1999) provides details on the characteristics of these two classes of SEP events.

Historically, the lack of understanding of the origin of impulsive SEP events may be due to the lack of high-cadence and high-quality solar imaging that are necessary for the identification of small-scale activity. SEP events during the latest solar maximum were observed with unprecedented precision and breadth by a new generation of instruments on ACE, Wind, SAMPEX, SOHO, TRACE, Hinode, and RHESSI.

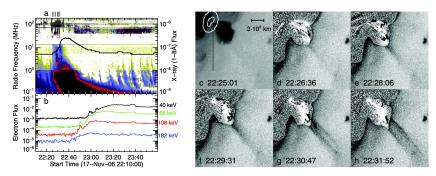


Fig. 17 Evolution of a coronal jet coinciding with a type III burst and an electron event. (a) Radio dynamic spectra and X-ray light curve. (b) The electron flux at 1 AU. (c) XRT negative intensity image of the jet source region. (d-h) Running-difference images illustrating the evolution of the flare and the jet. From Nitta et al. (2008).

Wang et al. (2006) investigated the solar sources of 25  $^3$ He-rich events through the analysis of EUV and white-light coronagraph observations from SOHO/EIT and SOHO/LASCO, respectively. They also used potential field source surface (PFSS) magnetic field model to determine the magnetic connectivity of Earth to the solar surface, as well as He I 10830 Å images to locate coronal holes. They suggested that  $^3$ He-rich events originated from coronal jets erupting at the interface between ARs and adjacent open field regions.

Nitta et al. (2006) studied 117 impulsive SEP events between Dec. 1994 and Dec. 2002. They used particle measurements from the WIND/EPACT/LEMT (von Rosenvinge et al., 1995), solar EUV and X-ray images from SOHO/EIT and Yohkoh/SXT, Type III radio burst observations, as well as PFSS models. They argue that most of these events have clear velocity dispersions, which is suggestive of new injection at the Sun. They found solar sources in 69 events where solar images show jets erupting shortly after the type III bursts. Open field lines are found in around 80% of the source regions, but only in 40% of the cases open field lines are found close to both the source regions and the Parker spiral coordinates at the source surface. Other events are found associated with CMEs and type II radio bursts (Yashiro et al., 2004) and the enhancement of ultra-heavy elements (Kahler et al., 2001; Reames and Ng, 2004; Pick et al., 2006). Wang et al. (2006) argue that in some cases these CMEs are faint, narrow, and resemble white-light jets (Wang and Sheeley, 2002). The most convincing case of connection between coronal jets and <sup>3</sup>He-rich SEP events is found by Nitta et al. (2008) through the use of high-quality and high-cadence images from *Hinode/XRT*. The close temporal

correlation of the jet with both the type III bursts at metric to kilometric ranges and the electron event strengthens the link between the jet and the  $^3$ He-rich SEP event (see Fig. 17).

#### 8.2 Contribution of Jets to the Solar Wind

Although we have learnt a great deal about coronal jets during the last two or three decades through improved quality X-ray and EUV observations, this knowledge remained confined to very low latitudes in the solar corona. Cirtain et al. (2007) analyzed the dynamics of a number of prominent X-ray jets and found two speed components. The higher speed component is comparable to the local Alfvén velocity in the low corona, suggesting that Alfvén waves may be an energy source for the acceleration of jets. The acceleration mechanisms of the jet plasma at high altitudes and their mass and energy inputs into the solar wind remain unclear. Only a handful of studies of coronal jets at high coronal latitudes are available in the literature. Analyses of jets observed in the EUV by SDO/AIA have indicated that the dominant speeds of these features are generally lower than those observed in the corona as their associated the coronal observations of their associated white-light enhancements (e.g., Yu et al., 2014).

Shibata et al. (1992) found through analysis of time series of Yohkoh/SXT images that the typical jet size ranges from  $5 \times 10^3$  km to  $4 \times 10^5$  km and their velocity in the range 30 to 300 km s<sup>-1</sup>, which correspond to kinetic energy  $10^{25} - 10^{28}$  erg. A more recent study by Corti et al. (2007) of cool jets using SOHO/UVCS spectral observations shows that the mass estimate of these jets at  $1.7~R_{\odot}$  is of the order of  $10^{13}$  g. Glesener et al. (2012) reported on the first observation of several hard X-ray coronal sources in an interchange reconnection type jet event. The event occurred on the solar limb with flare footpoints occulted. They found that plasma temperature during the impulsive phase as high as 13 MK and that early electrons were accelerated to tens of keV. The jet velocity is  $417 \pm 73$  km s<sup>-1</sup> and that the energy deposited in the thin-target is estimated to be  $1 \times 10^{28}$  erg.

Wang et al. (1998) discovered narrow, radially-moving jet-like features using coronagraph images recorded by SOHO/LASCO-C2 coronagraph (Brueckner et al., 1995) above the solar poles. Through analysis of EUV observations, they found that these white-light features are the manifestations of EUV jets observed by SOHO/EIT (Delaboudinière et al., 1995). They also found that the leading edges of the white-light jets propagate outward at speeds ranging from 400 to  $1100~{\rm km~s^{-1}}~({\rm median}\sim 590~{\rm km~s^{-1}}),$  whereas their centroidal velocities are much lower, ranging from 140 to 360 km s<sup>-1</sup> (median  $\sim 260~{\rm km~s^{-1}}$ ) in the region 2.9 to  $3.7 R_{\odot}$ . They argue that the large difference in velocities between the leading edge and the bulk of the jet material is the main cause of the jet elongation as it propagates away from the solar surface. It is clear that the velocities of the bulk of the jet material is significantly less than the escape speed, and added to the fact that there is no evidence for jet material falling back to the solar surface suggests that is situ acceleration prevents this material from falling back to the solar surface. The relatively narrow range of centroidal velocities ( $v_{cen} \simeq 250 \pm 110 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ) measured around 3.3  $R_{\odot}$  and the absence of any correlation between  $v_{cen}$  and  $v_{lead}$  suggest that the bulk of the jet material moves through the C2 FOV at the speed of the background solar wind. The last conclusion is potentially the most

important of this study, since it raises the possibility that the jets can be used to determine the dynamical properties of the polar wind itself in the immediate vicinity of the Sun.

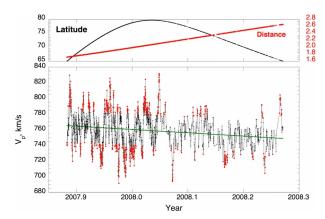


Fig. 18 Top: heliographic latitude (black, in degrees) and distance (red, in AU) of the Ulysses spacecraft vs. year. Bottom: hourly averages of proton speed vs. year. The green line is the average solar wind speed. Red symbols mark hours for which the speeds were more than ±20 km s<sup>-1</sup> above or below the average. From Neugebauer (2012).

Yu et al. (2014) used Hinode/XRT, SOHO/LASCO-C2, STEREO/COR2 and the Solar Mass Ejection Imager (SMEI; Eyles et al., 2003; Jackson et al., 2004) observations to trace the evolution of three large X-ray jets in September 2007. Yu et al. (2014) argue that they are in fact tracing the fast component of the jet through the solar corona (see Cirtain et al., 2007; Wood et al., 1999). The analysis of the SMEI white-light data shows that all three jets have similar mass and energy, averaging  $1.3 \times 10^{14}$  g and  $1.8 \times 10^{29}$  erg, respectively. Yu et al. (2014) found that the jets contribute  $6 \times 10^{15}$  g to the solar wind mass within three weeks. They argue that the jets contribute  $\sim 3.2\%$  of the mass of solar wind and  $\sim 1.6\%$  of the solar wind energy.

It has been reported that coronal jets cause disturbances in the solar wind (Neugebauer, 2012; Yu et al., 2014). However, according to the frequency distribution of coronal jets occurring in polar coronal holes, the total visible energy (total kinetic and thermal energy of coronal plasma) of coronal jets is not sufficient to accelerate the fast solar wind (Sako et al., 2013). Furthermore, plasma of a coronal jet falls down to the solar surface after cooling because the speed of most coronal jets does not exceed the escape velocity (Culhane et al., 2007b; Chandrashekhar et al., 2014a). To explain the energy of the accelerating solar wind by coronal jets, we need to consider the unobservable energy (the energy of the wave, kinetic energy of faint high-speed jets and cool material) and/or very small jets that cannot be seen by current instruments.

In-situ measurements at > 1 AU show that the fast polar solar wind has much less structure than the slow wind (Bame et al., 1977). It is, however, not totally uniform, but exhibits some structures that are probably of solar origin (see Fig. 18; Neugebauer, 2012). Such structures include the so-called micro-streams (Neugebauer et al., 1995). Neugebauer et al. (1995) and Neugebauer (2012) showed that micro-streams exhibit velocity fluctuations of  $\pm 35$  km s<sup>-1</sup> and are characterized by mean half-width of 0.4 days, recurrence on timescales of two to three days, higher plasma temperatures, density and temperature pileup on positive velocity gradi-

ents and expansion otherwise, and no latitude dependence of temporal duration or recurrence rate. These properties, together with increased abundance of low-FIP elements, led Neugebauer (2012) to conclude that fast-solar-wind micro-streams are related to episodic rather than quasi-stationary sources. Unlike previous analyses which were rather inconclusive about the origin(s) of these structures (e.g., polar plumes, jets, bright points), Neugebauer (2012) suggests that the detected structures are of solar origin and their properties can be explained if the fast micro-streams result from the magnetic reconnection of bright-point loops, which leads to jets. In this work jets are favored over plumes for the majority of the micro-stream peaks.

## 9 Models of Jet Formation Mechanisms

The explosively dynamic nature, morphology, and magnetic environment of coronal jets has led to a broad consensus that they result from magnetic reconnection occurring in the solar corona. The common factor in the numerous models that have been explored is the existence of a null point (or null line, in systems with axial symmetry) in the coronal magnetic field configuration that gives rise to the jet. A coronal null is a region that is susceptible to the build-up of thin, strong current sheets where reconnection can occur in an explosive manner (e.g., Antiochos, 1990; Lau and Finn, 1990). Such a region forms naturally whenever a bipole of one (parasitic) polarity is embedded within a larger-scale domain of the opposite polarity; this background flux consists of magnetic field lines that may be open to the heliosphere (in a coronal hole) or closed back to solar surface (in a larger-scale loop). The presence of a null prior to a jet has been inferred from the specific shapes of the jet emission in X-rays (Shibata et al., 1992) and the circular flare ribbons observed in the chromosphere at the base of some jets (Wang and Liu, 2012) and confirmed from magnetic field extrapolations (Moreno-Insertis et al., 2008; Liu et al., 2011b; Zhang et al., 2012a; Schmieder et al., 2013).

Two principal scenarios have been investigated for the occurrence of coronal jets. The first is flux emergence from below the photosphere, in which the newly emerging field collides with the ambient coronal field and, where favorably oriented, the two flux systems are driven to reconnect. The second scenario is onset of instability or loss of equilibrium, in which the stressed, nonpotential, closed flux beneath the null point's fan surface begins to reconnect with the ambient, quasipotential flux exterior to the fan surface after some critical threshold is reached. In either of these scenarios, the reconnection-initiated jets exhibit one or more of three basic processes that we call the slingshot, untwisting, and evaporation mechanisms.

In the *slingshot* mechanism, the plasma in the immediate vicinity of the reconnection site is accelerated to Alfvénic velocities by the rapid motion of the newly reconnected field lines as they straighten under magnetic tension. The outflowing plasma also can be heated due to the energy released at the reconnection site. Multiple models have been studied that simulate the physics of the *slingshot* mechanism (e.g., Yokoyama and Shibata, 1996; Moreno-Insertis et al., 2008; Nishizuka et al., 2008; Archontis and Hood, 2013; Yang et al., 2013).

The *untwisting* mechanism relies on the presence of shear and/or twist in the closed region beneath the null point prior to reconnection onset. When recon-

nection occurs, the newly reconnected open field lines are twisted at the low-atmosphere end and untwisted at the heliosphere end. This creates conditions for the propagation of a nonlinear Alfvén wave along the open (or large-scale closed) field lines that advects and compresses the plasma through which it travels. Depending upon the dimensionality of the system, the Alfvén wave that develops along the untwisting field lines can be a shear wave (e.g., Karpen et al., 1995, 1998) or a torsional wave (e.g., Pariat et al., 2009, 2010, 2015; Török et al., 2009; Archontis and Hood, 2013; Moreno-Insertis and Galsgaard, 2013; Fang et al., 2014; Lee et al., 2015).

The evaporation mechanism results indirectly from the reconnection process, which deposits energy into the surrounding plasma in the form of heat, accelerated energetic particles, and compressive flows. The energy and particles from the reconnection site travel down to and are deposited in the chromosphere, increasing the pressure and temperature. This creates an evaporation flow, which supplies plasma to the closed and open field lines. The jet is then accelerated by the pressure gradient along the magnetic field. Relatively few existing numerical studies include thermal conduction, which is necessary for producing the evaporation jet (e.g., Miyagoshi and Yokoyama, 2004; Fang et al., 2014).

It is possible that all three of these processes play a role during jets, but to different extents in different magnetic configurations and/or during different phases of a single jet event. For example, it is plausible that jets exhibiting helical motions primarily reflect the occurrence of the *untwisting* mechanism (Pariat et al., 2010; Moreno-Insertis and Galsgaard, 2013; Archontis and Hood, 2013), whereas straight jets may instead be due to the *slingshot* mechanism (Pariat et al., 2015); both may have some contribution from the *evaporation* mechanism. The observed rotations and wavy motions in some jets seem to be well explained by the untwisting mechanism (Canfield et al., 1996; Jibben and Canfield, 2004; Cirtain et al., 2007; Patsourakos et al., 2008; Liu et al., 2009; Kamio et al., 2010; Chen et al., 2012; Hong et al., 2013).

Since the 1990s, multiple modeling strategies aimed at reproducing the mechanism and characteristics of coronal jets have been proposed. The seminal Shibata schematic (see Fig. 19; Shibata et al., 1992) of a coronal jet due to flux emergence identified the importance of reconnection in the jet phenomenon. Developments in the intervening years include one-dimensional hydrodynamic (1D HD) and multidimensional magnetohydrodynamic (2D, 2.5D, and 3D MHD) simulations. Different MHD simulations have included various effects, such as a range of plasma beta values, viscosity, resistivity, gravity, plasma heat conduction, and radiation. More recently, magnetofrictional simulations have been used to study the equilibrium magnetic field structure and topology associated with jets.

## 9.1 HD Simulations

Most MHD simulations have been performed neglecting heat conduction, mainly due to the rather high computational cost. On the other hand, heat conduction is essential for comparing simulations with observations, because the spatial distribution of X-ray and EUV brightness depends on the distribution of temperature and emission measure that are controlled by heat conduction and radiation. Shimojo et al. (2001) assumed that a coronal jet is a hot plasma flow that is created by chro-

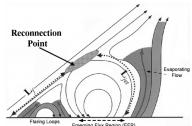


Fig. 19 Model of X-ray jets based on the magnetic reconnection. From Shimojo and Shibata (2000).

mospheric evaporation in a flux tube, whose shape does not change, and performed 1D hydrodynamic (HD) simulations including heat conduction and radiation. The result of their simulations shows that the intensity distribution along an X-ray jet cannot be reproduced by injecting energy into a single tube. The inconsistency is caused by heat conduction that carries energy to the transition region and upper chromosphere quickly. Based on the reconnection picture of coronal jets, they constructed a pseudo-2D model in which different flux loops are heated successively. This simulation could reproduce the observed intensity distribution along an X-ray jet.

#### 9.2 MHD Simulations: Flux Emergence Scenario

#### 9.2.1 2D Simulations

One mechanism that has been suggested to lead to jets is the emergence of flux into a preexisting open or closed field. Shibata et al. (1992) showed that a new small loop system appeared by the side of a larger emerging loop system during an X-ray jet observed by Yohkoh/SXT. The observations suggest that magnetic reconnection occurred between the emerging loop system and the ambient vertical coronal fields. The configuration is similar to the emerging flux model of a confined flare, which was proposed by Heyvaerts et al. (1977). Yokoyama and Shibata (1995, 1996) performed two-dimensional MHD simulations using two magnetic initial configurations: one is an anemone type, the Shibata model with vertical ambient fields, and the other one is a two-sided type that occurs during the reconnection between emerging flux and horizontal ambient fields. They succeeded in reproducing not only a hot jet but also a cool jet simultaneously. The result is consistent with the observations that show a H $\alpha$  surge occurring simultaneously with a coronal jet. The hot jet is not a reconnection outflow directly. At first, the reconnection outflow collides with coronal fields, and then produces a fast-mode MHD shock. The outflow is deflected by the shock, and becomes a hot jet along the large-scale coronal magnetic field. The reconnection outflow is not only diverted but additionally accelerated by pressure gradients. The plasma of the cool jet is provided by emerging flux, which carries chromospheric plasma to the corona without heating in the process. When the magnetic reconnection occurs, chromospheric plasma is ejected from the emerging flux along the coronal fields. Another important result from their simulations is the plasmoid ejection from the current sheet. During the evolution of the current sheet between the emerging flux and the coronal fields,

the magnetic island (plasmoid) is formed by tearing and coalescence instabilities. When the plasmoid ejects from the current sheet, the reconnection rate suddenly increases and the main energy release phase, which includes the formation of a coronal jet, starts. Based on these results, Yokoyama and Shibata (1994) proposed that the plasmoid ejection is a key process for producing fast reconnection. Since their simulation is two dimensional, the plasmoid completely disappears during the reconnection with the coronal fields. Nevertheless, the plasmoid ejection in their simulations may account for at least some blow-out jets.

Yokoyama and Shibata (2001) developed a 2D MHD simulation code including the effects of heat conduction and radiation, and compared the results of the simulations with the standard model of flares. Miyagoshi and Yokoyama (2004) used the code for simulating a coronal jet. They performed the simulations of an emerging flux with horizontal coronal fields (two-sided type). Their result shows that magnetic reconnection produces two different types of jets simultaneously. One is a low-density jet, which properties are similar to that shown in Yokoyama and Shibata (1995), and the other one is a high-density jet produced by chromospheric evaporation. Based on the results of their simulation, they revealed that the mass of a coronal jet that is produced by chromospheric evaporation could be estimated from the magnetic field strength and temperature of the corona, the size of the emerging flux and the duration of the jet.

#### 9.2.2 3D Simulations

The first three-dimensional MHD simulation of flux emergence producing a hot jet in a coronal hole was performed by Moreno-Insertis et al. (2008), including a comparison with Hinode/XRT observations. A follow-up study was published in Moreno-Insertis and Galsgaard (2013). The experiment was carried out for a domain that contained the top 3.7 Mm of the solar interior, the low atmosphere and the corona. To understand the jet behavior in a coronal hole, in the simulation the corona was uniformly magnetized at time t=0 with  $B=10\,\mathrm{G}$  and field lines subtending an angle of  $25^{\circ}$  to the vertical. These simulations belong to the category of the so-called *idealized* models in which the gas was assumed to behave like a simple ideal gas, radiation transfer was not included, and the only entropy sources considered were those associated with ohmic dissipation and viscosity. On the other hand, the values for temperature, density and Alfvén speed used for the corona were close to those expected for the Sun.

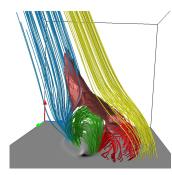


Fig. 20 Field lines (blue/green/red/yellow) in selected regions of the jet experiment by Moreno-Insertis and Galsgaard (2013) clearly delineate the four basic connectivity domains in the model. A temperature isosurface (brown) at  $T=7~\mathrm{MK}$  that encompasses the jet, the reconnection region, and the top of the hot loops is also shown.

In the simulation by Moreno-Insertis et al. (2008) the initial condition was a magnetic tube inserted near the bottom of the domain and endowed with a density distribution leading to the formation of a buoyant  $\Omega$ -loop. Given the sign and direction of the tube's magnetic field in the experiment, when the rising magnetized plasma meets the coronal field, a concentrated, curved, blanket-like current sheet is formed covering the emerging plasma, and reconnection between the two magnetic systems starts. One of the outflow regions from the reconnection site leads to the emission of a thin jet up along the slanted field lines of the model coronal hole (Fig. 20). Below the reconnection site, a double-chambered vault structure can be discerned consisting of closed magnetic loops: one of them contains the field lines of the emerged system (green in the figure), which have not been reconnected yet. The other contains a new set of closed loops (in red in the figure) resulting from the reconnection, and the plasma at their top has high temperature (several MK) because of the ohmic heating it experienced when going through the reconnection site. The high-temperature regions in the model, i.e., the jet, the reconnection site and the hot closed reconnected loops, taken together, have the shape of an inverted Y (i.e., Eiffel tower), very much as observed in X-ray by Yohkoh/SXT and Hinode/XRT.

Various quantitative features in those models are amenable to comparison with observations. The jet phenomenon lasts in the model for about 20 to 30 min, but the high-temperature phase is shorter, some 10 to 20 min, which is well within the observed range. The jet velocities are also within the observed values, namely  $100-300~{\rm km~s^{-1}}$ . Of particular interest is that the jet in the model suffers a horizontal drift due to the gradual change of connectivity of the emerged loops which turn into reconnected loops: the resulting sideways velocity in the experiment, about  $10~{\rm km~s^{-1}}$ , is also compatible with observed values for the horizontal drifts.

The jet structure and emission process were analyzed in depth in the study by Moreno-Insertis and Galsgaard (2013). The jet has the shape of an inclined hollow cane, or, more precisely: the plasma flows preferentially in a surface with the shape of a hollow semi-cylinder (Fig. 20), and has fast and slow streams, with the fast ones reaching  $200 - 300 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . Typical temperatures in the jet are around 5-6 MK. A number of null points and plasmoids were identified in the reconnection site, and the topological changes as the emergence and jet emission process advances was described in some detail. A further aspect of the model is the appearance of a dense wall-like structure extending to heights of several megameters and surrounding the domain constituted by the emerged field region and the hot reconnected loops. The density of the plasma in the wall can be up to a few orders of magnitude above the values in the standard corona at the same height. The dense wall has at most transition region temperatures and velocities typically below 50 km sec<sup>-1</sup>. Whether this cold wall can be assimilated to the phenomenon of cold jets introduced by Yokoyama and Shibata (1996) or Nishizuka et al. (2008) is still debated.

Many EUV/X-ray jets have been seen to be followed by a phase of violent eruptions. This transition from a quiescent jet to highly dynamical eruptions was shown to be a natural process in the model by Moreno-Insertis and Galsgaard (2013). In fact, it was seen to occur in two successive steps. When the quiescent jet was already well into the decaying phase, a first eruption took place: by that time, the emerged domain directly below the jet had adopted the shape of a comparatively thin wedge containing a highly sheared magnetic arcade. The opposite

polarities across the wedge got increasingly close to each other and reconnection started. This unleashes an unstable process of the classical tether-cutting type: most of the wedge is violently ejected upward as a flux rope and impinges upon the overlying coronal structure. This sort of process had already been described to occur in the late stages of an emergence episode by Manchester et al. (2004) and Archontis and Hood (2008, 2012). However, when this first eruption was decaying, a collection of several repeated eruptions of a different physical nature took place in the experiment. Unlike the first one, they occurred around the location of the opposite polarities at the surface resulting from the initial dipole emergence. Also, the instability process was of a different nature: in one of them, for instance, a twisted loop of semi-toroidal shape was expelled upward maintaining its roots in the photosphere. The level of twist was slightly above the threshold for the kink instability; also, twist was seen to convert into writhe as time advanced, a process reminiscent of the idealized case described by Török and Kliem (2005). While in the lower  $\approx 10 \,\mathrm{Mm}$  of the corona, the rope being ejected was dense  $(n \sim 10^{11} \,\mathrm{cm}^{-3})$ and cool  $(T < 4 \times 10^5 \text{ K})$  compared with the surroundings. Later on, when the rope collides with the overlying magnetized corona, acceleration and heating of the plasma takes place which leads to high velocities and temperatures. The kinetic energy involved in this eruption was close to  $10^{27}$  erg. It remains to study whether the simulated observational signatures one can obtain from this kind of eruptive process share common features with the actual observations of blow-out jets.

The onset and evolution of blow-out jets was studied in another flux emergence simulation by Archontis and Hood (2013). They modeled the interaction of an emerging twisted flux tube with the ambient coronal magnetic field. Initially, the emerging field interacted with the ambient field creating bi-directional jet outflows. The upward outflow was directed (as expected) along the channel of the "open" reconnected field lines. The downward reconnection flow collided with the magnetic field underneath it, heating the plasma locally to 10 MK. The overall hot plasma emission formed the "standard" Y shaped jets. Eventually, a new magnetic flux rope was formed due to reconnection of sheared field line along the polarity inversion line of the emerging region. The flux rope became eruptive, blowing out the envelope field lines. During this blow-out eruption, both hot ( $\approx 10^7 \, \mathrm{K}$ ) and  $cool (5-15\times10^4 \text{ K})$  plasma is emitted into the corona (left panel of Fig. 21). The reconnection of the twisted field lines of the flux rope with the non-twisted oblique ambient field created an untwisting motion during the ejection of the blow-out jet (blue field lines in the right panel of Fig. 21). Since the eruption occurred over a long distance within the emerging flux region, the blow-out jet appeared to be much wider than the standard jet and it consisted of many filament-like outflows along its width. The shape and the physical properties of the blow-out jet in this model are in agreement with those of the observed blow-out jets.

Gontikakis et al. (2009) reported on the formation of an AR jet in a flux emergence simulation. They found that a fast ( $117 \,\mathrm{km\ s^{-1}}$ ) and hot ( $\approx 1 \,\mathrm{MK}$ ) bidirectional flow was formed after the emergence of new flux in the vicinity of the AR. To model this jet, they performed a numerical experiment where a small AR was formed by the emergence of a twisted flux tube and the nearby emergence of another (weaker) flux tube. The reconnection between the AR field and the newly emerging flux gave onset to a jet, which was comparable with the observed ones in terms of physical properties (e.g., temperature, velocity) and geometrical shape. Archontis et al. (2010), in the study of a similar system, revealed the recurrent

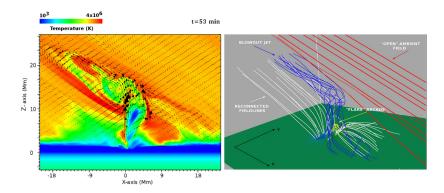


Fig. 21 (Left): Temperature distribution at the vertical midplane during the ejection of the blow-out jet. The arrows indicate the projected velocity field on the plane. (Right): 3D magnetic field topology during the ejection of the blow-out jet. See text for details.

emission of jets at the edge of the AR due to oscillatory reconnection between the emerging and the pre-existing AR magnetic field. The dynamical interaction of the two magnetic systems reconfigured the magnetic field connectivity, forming new magnetic regions (post-emergence arcade and envelope fields), which eventually started to reconnect as well. The recurrent jets moved along the "closed" field lines of the envelope field (confined jets). The overall system had a specific reservoir of magnetic flux and energy, which eventually became exhausted leading to a gradual annihilation of the jets.

Lee et al. (2015) performed numerical experiments and they reported on the recurrent onset of helical "blow-out" jets in an emerging flux region (EFR). They found that these jets grow with velocities comparable to the local Alfvén speed and they transfer a vast amount of heavy plasma into the outer solar atmosphere. During their emission, they undergo an untwisting motion as a result of reconnection between the twisted emerging and the non-twisted pre-existing magnetic field in the solar atmosphere. This study provides direct evidence that the untwisting motion of a blow-out jet is associated with the propagation of torsional Alfvén waves in the corona.

The emergence of a small twisted flux tube into a large-scale, arcade-like coronal magnetic field was modeled by Török et al. (2009). The focus of their study was the topological change of the coronal magnetic field in response to flux emergence. The simulation was motivated by puzzling Hinode/XRT observations of a small limb event that took place next to a quiescent prominence cavity. The event first exhibited the typical morphological characteristics of a standard jet. Shortly after, however, a second closed loop system adjacent to the first one became visible, which is typically not observed in coronal jets.

Török et al. (2009) employed a  $\beta=0$  MHD simulation to model the magnetic evolution that may lead to such an event. They used the coronal flux rope model by Titov and Démoulin (1999) to construct the magnetic field of the prominence and the surrounding arcade, and followed by the emergence of a second, much smaller flux rope in its vicinity. Note that the flux emergence was driven kinematically,

i.e., the slow, bodily emergence of the small flux rope was imposed as a boundary condition at the bottom plane of the computational domain (see e.g., Fan and Gibson, 2004). Since the energy equation was neglected, the simulation does not provide information on the plasma properties of the system, but it allows for the study of topological changes of the magnetic field caused by the emergence of small-scale twisted flux into locally open magnetic field.

The simulation revealed a two-step reconnection process, which is depicted in Fig. 22. Initially, the evolution corresponds exactly to the standard jet scenario – the emerging flux rope reconnects with the semi-open background field, which leads to the formation of closed loops on the left-hand side of the emergence region (red field lines in Fig. 22b). However, since the horizontal orientation of the emerging field is rotating as flux located closer to the rope axis emerges (see Fig. 6 in Török et al., 2009), the reconnection site (the null point) slowly drifts towards the other side of the emerging parasitic polarity. This leads to a successive displacement of the footpoints of the reconnected field lines until, eventually, the field lines come into contact with the background field on the right-hand side of the emergence region and reconnect to form a second loop system (magenta field lines in Fig. 22c). The reconnected field lines collectively form a fan-spine configuration that significantly extends over the parasitic polarity. Török et al. (2009) therefore suggested that such a two-step reconnection process may play a role in the formation of anemone regions.

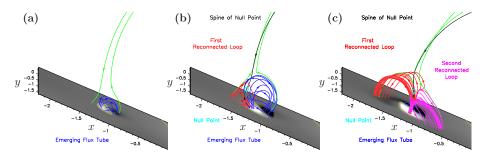


Fig. 22 Side view on the flux emergence region in the simulation by Török et al. (2009) at three consecutive times. Green and blue magnetic field lines outline the coronal arcade and the emerging flux rope, respectively, while the red and magenta field lines show two loop systems that are successively formed by reconnection.

Extending the above simulations, Fang et al. (2014) carried out the first 3D MHD simulation of the emergence of a flux rope into open field including field-aligned thermal conduction. The simulation was performed with the Block Adaptive Tree Solar-wind Roe Upwind Scheme (BATS-R-US; Powell et al., 1999; Tóth et al., 2012). In this simulation the jet also experiences two phases — a standard and a blowout phase. During the blowout jet cold and dense plasma is ejected in a spinning motion along untwisting field lines, driven by Lorentz forces, in addition to the hot reconnection outflow. The authors compared their results to a run without heat conduction and constructed synthetic SDO/AIA emission images for both cases. They found that the run with heat conduction produces plasma emission that is in better agreement with the underlying magnetic field structure, because

the heat conduction efficiently distributes the energy release from the reconnection region into the lower atmosphere and promotes the ejection of dense plasma into the corona along the field lines.

#### 9.3 MHD Simulations: Instability Onset Scenario

The untwisting-jet model was first demonstrated to generate solar-like jets by Pariat et al. (2009, 2010), with subsequent extensions by Dalmasse et al. (2012), Pariat et al. (2015), and Karpen et al. (2016). The physical mechanism underlying energy release and jet initiation is kink-instability-induced interchange magnetic reconnection occurring at 3D null points.

To simulate the jets numerically, an initially potential magnetic configuration is assumed (Pariat et al., 2009, 2010). A vertical magnetic dipole, positioned below the photosphere to generate a closed flux system above, is embedded within a uniform, inclined (with respect to the vertical direction), open background field. A highly conducting, low-pressure plasma with initially uniform temperature (and mass density, in these gravity-free studies) fills the corona. The nonlinear equations of ideal, single-fluid MHD are advanced in time using the Adaptively Refined Magnetohydrodynamics Solver (ARMS; e.g., DeVore and Antiochos, 2008). Magnetic free energy and helicity are introduced into the closed-flux region by imposing photospheric twisting motions at the bottom boundary.

Analyses of the simulation results (Pariat et al., 2010) reveal that the jet generation consists of distinct phases of energy storage and explosive energy release. During the energy-storage phase, a highly localized, thin current sheet develops gradually at the null point. Larger inclination angles (with respect to the vertical direction) of the background field introduce greater asymmetries into the strengthening current sheet. Configurations with sufficiently inclined fields eventually begin to reconnect quasi-steadily, with an associated slow release of free energy (Pariat et al., 2010; Dalmasse et al., 2012). This process generates a straight jet of tension-driven outflows due to the retraction of newly reconnected field lines (Pariat et al., 2015), the so-called "slingshot effect" (e.g., Linton et al., 2001). If the energy-storage rate exceeds the slow energy-release rate, which always occurs at small inclination angles where no straight jet is generated, the magnetic energy continues to accumulate. Eventually, the configuration experiences an explosive energy-release phase driven by an ideal kink-like instability (Rachmeler et al., 2010), during which a very broad, highly dynamical current sheet develops along the fan-surface field lines that separate the closed and open flux systems. Reconnection across this current sheet causes an impulsive release of both free energy and helicity that generates a helical jet. The helical jet is driven by large-amplitude, torsional Alfvén waves that propagate upward along newly reconnected, open field lines. These waves carry away a large fraction of the free energy and helicity initially stored in the closed-flux region. The helical jet is generated irrespective of the inclination of the open field, but its properties vary with those of the precursor straight jet: a stronger straight jet reduces the energy released during the subsequent helical jet more substantially, and also delays the triggering of the helical jet for a longer time.

### 9.4 Recent Simulations and Work in Progress

## 9.4.1 MHD Simulation: Instability Onset Scenario

Recent work on the ARMS model has focused on its extension to spherical geometry, the inclusion of solar gravity and wind, and the predicted signatures of jets in the inner heliosphere (Karpen et al., 2016). The results obtained thus far corroborate the conclusions of the cartesian-geometry, gravity-free simulations summarized above. A configuration with a strictly radial background field (i.e., zero inclination angle, as in Pariat et al., 2009) is shown in Fig. 23. The left, middle, and right panels illustrate, respectively, the initial potential state, the strongly twisted configuration just prior to reconnection onset and jet initiation, and the late state of propagation of torsional Alfvén waves into the inner heliosphere. Isosurfaces in the left and middle panels show regions where the thermal pressure is twice the magnetic pressure (plasma  $\beta = 2$ ): the compact volume that surrounds the null point initially (left) fragments and spreads around the top of the fan surface near the time of reconnection onset (middle). The outermost edge of the heliospheric view (right) is at  $\approx 5 R_{\odot}$ , and the time is 25 min after reconnection onset in the low corona. Thus, the Alfvénic jet averaged  $\approx 2000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  as it traversed the corona.

The reconnection-driven untwisting jets that occur at stressed 3D null points above embedded bipoles reproduce key features of observed polar jets. Highly impulsive, obviously helical plasma motions are generated in untwisting jets at all inclination angles studied thus far. If the inclination angle is large enough, a precursor phase of gentler, more linearly directed plasma motions occurs. If the photospheric driving is maintained over a long interval, recurrent quasi-homologous helical jets can be generated from a single structure. The torsional Alfvén waves that drive the helical jets can propagate well out into the inner heliosphere, producing signatures that have been observed in the corona by STEREO and that may be detectable in the solar wind by Solar Orbiter and Solar Probe Plus. Finally, the straight/helical jets obtained in the simulations may replicate the observed standard/blow-out jet classification proposed by Moore et al. (2010, 2013). The straight jets are strongly collimated, possess the classical inverse-Y shape and a narrow spire, and show little evidence of rotation, all of which are principal criteria for standard jets. The helical jets, on the other hand, exhibit strong rotational motions and possess a broad spire, matching key properties of blow-out jets.

# $9.4.2\ MHD\ Simulation:\ Flux\ Emergence\ Scenario$

Very recently, Török et al. (2015) employed the 3D MHD model of the solar corona by Predictive Science Inc. (PSI) to simulate jets, using for the first time a realistic description of the energy flow in the corona ("thermodynamic MHD") and a spherical computational domain that extends to 20 solar radii. The PSI model incorporates parallel thermal conduction, radiative losses, background coronal heating, and the solar wind (see Lionello et al., 2009). For simplicity, Török et al. (2015) chose a purely radial coronal magnetic field and a radially dependent heating function. After the steady-state solution of the large-scale corona and solar wind is obtained, the emergence of a flux rope is modeled by successively imposing boundary data extracted from a flux-emergence simulation by Leake et al. (2013).

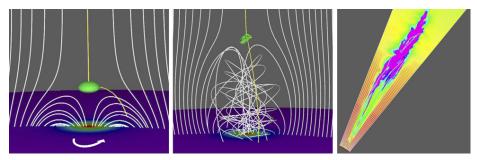


Fig. 23 Untwisting jet model in spherical geometry with solar gravity and wind. (Left) Initial potential configuration in the low corona showing magnetic field lines (white curves), radial magnetic field component at the solar surface (color shading), an isosurface (green) of high plasma beta, and a schematic representation of the twisting motions imposed at the bottom boundary (white arrow). (Middle) Strongly twisted configuration in the low corona, just prior to reconnection onset, showing magnetic field lines (white curves), radial magnetic field component at the surface (color shading), and an isosurface of high plasma beta (green). (Right) Propagation of the jet into the inner heliosphere, showing magnetic field lines (white curves) and plasma velocity magnitude against the plane of the sky (color shading). From Karpen et al. (2016).

As the flux rope expands in the corona, a current layer is formed and reconnection across this layer triggers a standard jet, similar to the simulations described in Section 8.2.2. If the emergence is continued for a sufficiently long time, a blow-out jet is produced by the eruption of the flux rope.

Figure 24 shows one of the simulations. In this case ohmic heating was turned off and no blow-out jet was modeled. The temperature increase to a realistic value of  $\approx 1.1\,\mathrm{MK}$  in the jet spire is caused predominantly by compressional heating in the current layer and in the reconnection outflow regions. The synthetic emission images nicely show the jet spire, the inverted Y-shape, and the bright point. The reconnection occurs in episodic bursts, which manifest as "blobs" in the synthetic coronagraph images (top right). At a later time, when the emergence is stopped and reconnection has ceased, the white-light signature of the jet evolves into a structure reminiscent of a plume (bottom right). These simulations will allow us to investigate the plasma heating and dynamics in coronal jets, as well as their mass and energy contributions to the solar wind, in much more detail than before.

# 9.5 Magnetofrictional Simulations

Meyer et al. (2016b) have considered different configurations of jets using the magnetofrictional technique of van Ballegooijen et al. (2000). The method calculates the evolution of the magnetic field through a series of quasi-static equilibria in response to photospheric footpoint motions. Since the technique considers equilibria, it is not able to capture the eruptive stage of a jet. It is, however, very useful for considering the build-up of electric current systems and free magnetic energy in the lead-up to the eruption. It also has the advantage that it is computationally inexpensive, allowing for the modeling of a wide variety of different situations and configurations, and the exploration of the parameter space. Meyer et al. (2016b) consider a series of simple, theoretical situations including: a magnetic polarity in

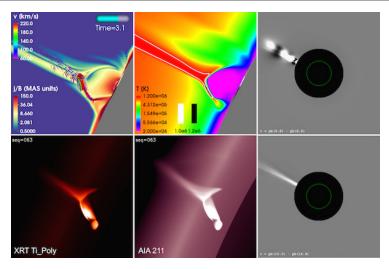


Fig. 24 "Thermodynamic" MHD simulation of a standard jet. The four panels on the left show electric currents and plasma flows (arrows), plasma temperature, and two synthetic emission images, respectively. The right panels show synthetic running-difference coronagraph images at an intermediate (top) and at a later (bottom) time. The green circle outlines the solar surface.

a uniform opposite-polarity background magnetic field, rotating around its axis similar to Pariat et al. (2009); a magnetic polarity rotating in a circle around an outside axis; a magnetic flyby, where two opposite-polarity magnetic features shear past one another; flux cancellation; and flux emergence. For all cases, they show the evolution of the free energy, helicity, and height of the null point with time, as shown in Fig. 25. The current structure of the jet and the simulated emission based on integrating the square of the current shows a collimated standard jet in the case similar to Pariat et al. (2009), a broader filamentary curtain of current (see Fig. 25d) reminiscent of a blow-out jet in the circular motion and flux cancellation cases. A follow-up statistical study is planned to compare these theoretical configurations with a catalog of observed solar jets.

Savcheva et al. (2016) modeled the magnetic field structure of a standard and blow-out jet that appeared in the outskirts of an AR. The null point topology of the standard jet was obtained from a potential field extrapolation from an HMI magnetogram, and the blow-out jet was modeled using the flux rope insertion method (e.g., van Ballegooijen, 2004; Savcheva et al., 2012). The flux rope insertion method produces a nonlinear force-free field (NLFFF) containing a flux rope embedded in a potential field. In the initial configuration the flux rope is stable under a null point. This initial condition is used in a dynamic magnetofrictional simulation similar to Gibb et al. (2014). During the simulation the magnetic flux rope expands and pushes on the null point where reconnection takes place and twist propagates along the large-scale active region field. The simulations are used to resolve LOS effects in interpreting *IRIS* observations of these jets.

The same IRIS observations of a recurrent blow-out jet were considered along with the data-driven magnetofrictional simulation of Cheung et al. (2015). In contrast to the flux rope insertion method that uses LOS magnetograms, the quasi-static NLFFF equilibria in Cheung et al. (2015) re-extrapolated based on vector

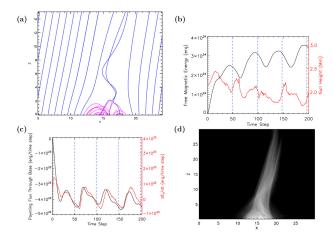


Fig. 25 (a) Closed (magenta) and open (blue) magnetic field lines viewed in the xz plane at  $y=15\,\mathrm{Mm}$ , at t=120 time steps. (b) Free magnetic energy (black) and height of null point (red) as a function of time. (c) Poynting flux through the photosphere (black) and time derivative of free magnetic energy  $\mathrm{d}E_f/\mathrm{d}t$  as a function of time. Vertical blue dashed lines indicate times between full laps of the positive magnetic polarity about the midpoint of the box. (d) Logarithm of LOS-integrated current, viewed in the xz plane.

magnetograms. The blow-out jet in this simulation is more strongly driven than the one in Savcheva et al. (2016) due to the detectable rotation motion in the vector magnetograms.

#### 10 Conclusion and Prospects

Imaging and spectroscopic observations over the last two decades have provided unprecedented insights into the formation and evolution of solar coronal transients, particularly coronal jets. Recent space missions, such as *Hinode*, *STEREO*, and *SDO*, are instrumental in advancing our understanding of this phenomenon.

Instrument improvement in terms of both spatial and temporal resolution and also temperature coverage are key in the numerous discoveries made concerning the different facets of coronal jets. Thanks to the multiple discoveries made using high quality observations (both remote sensing and in situ), it is now widely believed that coronal jets play an important role in the multi-scale solar activity, coronal heating, and the contribution to the solar wind. The Feature Finding Team (FFT) of SDO developed dedicated computer tools that allow identifying and characterizing coronal feature including coronal jets. This has the potential to build massive jet statistics all over the solar disk. This would hopefully give us truly global statistics of the energy and mass contents of jets and their role in the energy and mass supply of the solar atmosphere

However, there are still many aspects of coronal jets that remain ambiguous and need further investigation. It is still unclear whether the scale size spectrum of coronal jets extends to scales much smaller than the spatial resolution available now. Do they extend to the nano-flare scales where it is believed that the con-

tribution to the coronal heating could be significant? The contribution of jets to the solar wind and to the population of energetic particles is still unclear as well as their role in driving the formation and evolution of other coronal structures such as plumes and spicules. An area of improvement in the study of coronal jets that need to be deepened is spectroscopy, which provides insights into the plasma properties of jets. This aspect is still in its infancy compared to imaging. The latter needs further improvements in terms of spatial resolution.

The extensive jet modeling in the past decade or so has achieved many successes including the detailed representation of the jet morphology and dynamics that match observations of jets well. In addition, we have achieved the successful modeling of the transition between standard and blow-out jets as well as the ability to create recurrent jets and jet/plume structures. Jets have been produced both in the open field of coronal holes and the large-scale closed field of solar active regions. The scenario for producing jets that has been most widely explored in the simulations is flux emergence (Moreno-Insertis et al., 2008; Török et al., 2009; Moreno-Insertis and Galsgaard, 2013; Archontis and Hood, 2013), but increasing attention has been given to the instability-onset scenario (Pariat et al., 2009, 2010, 2015). The mechanism of flux cancellation has not been explored with MHD simulations, while a small study of flux cancellation has been performed in a magnetofrictional simulation (Meyer et al., 2016a). Recent observations (e.g., Young and Muglach, 2014b) demonstrate that the flux cancellation mechanism may be as important as the emergence.

Most current simulations lack a full thermodynamic treatment and do not include thermal conduction or radiation effects. These ingredients are clearly important for reproducing the observed plasma properties and understanding the emission and spectral observations of jets. As a consequence the MHD simulations so far either under- or overestimate the temperature of jets. As more plasma diagnostics of coronal jets become available through analysis of Hinode/EIS and IRIS data, we need to create increasingly realistic MHD simulations of jets. Current MHD simulations only deal with idealized boundary and initial conditions. Hence, the ultimate goal is to develop data-constrained, and eventually, data-driven MHD simulations with useful energy equations to model observed events. Other investigations, both observational and theoretical, should clarify whether mini-filament eruptions play a larger role than previously recognized in jet and jet-bright-point formation (Sterling et al., 2015).

We believe that future mission such as NASA's Solar Probe Plus and ESA's Solar Orbiter will provide further insights into the physics of coronal jets and the related phenomena. For instance, Solar Probe Plus will fly through coronal structures including jets, which would provide close by imaging observations as well as in situ measurements of these features. Solar Orbiter's above the ecliptic observations will provide unprecedented view of the solar poles where coronal jets are prominent. This includes magnetic field measurements, spectroscopy, imaging, and in situ measurements.

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The SOHO is a mission of international cooperation between ESA and NASA. Hinode is a Japanese mission developed and launched by ISAS/JAXA, with NAOJ as a domestic partner and NASA and STFC (UK) as international partners. It is operated by these agencies in cooperation with the ESA and NSC (Norway). The STEREO/SECCHI data used here are produced by an international consortium of the NRL (USA), LMSAL (USA), NASA GSFC (USA), RAL (UK), Univ. Birmingham (UK), MPS (Germany), CSL (Belgium), IOTA (France), and IAS (France). SDO is the first mission to be launched for NASA's Living With a Star (LWS) Program.

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